TUESDAY JULY 9, 2013 Volume XXIII, Issue No. 135

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#### **OPINION METER** This week's poll:

Should drug testing be made mandatory for all law enforcement personnel?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

#### INSIDE

#### BUSINESS



The center of gambling has migrated to the other side of the world.

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ASIA



The Philippine government aims to nearly halve poverty by 2015.

➤ PAGE 15

#### **LIFE & STYLE**



Jason Statham showcases acting range in new film, "Redemption." **➤ PAGE 19** 

# Saipan beautification efforts go on



Workers of Department of Public Works' contractor Radiocom prepare the highway median in Chalan Kiya for cement capping last Friday morning. The capping of medians in Susupe, Chalan Piao, and the ongoing one in Chalan Kiya has put a damper on the Saipan Mayor's Office's effort to revegetate the island's roadways with flowers and small plants.

By MARK RABAGO

volved in.

mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Editor's Note: This article is part of an ongoing series on the efforts being made to prepare the CNMI for a projected growth in tourism arrivals after many years of dismal growth in the industry.

hile the Saipan Mayor's Office revegetation of highway medians appear to have hit a wall, it's not the only island beautification project Mayor Donald Flores is currently in-

been quite successful in eliminating junk roads of inner villages. cars, not only from the shoulders of main

The Saipan Mayor's Office has also thoroughfares but also from the narrow

Another effort currently underway is

the tree pruning campaign that has done a good job of giving tourists and residents alike a spectacular vista of Saipan's breathtaking sunsets along Beach Road.

Flores and his office is also trying to get rid of illegal dumpsites and is plan-

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## DPL: Pagan open to multiple uses

- » Torres insists on reinstatement of pozzolan mining permit
- » Public hearings on Saipan casino, electronic gaming bills set

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com

Despite competing "interests" on the use of Pagan that includes that of the U.S. Department of Defense, the Department of Public Lands said yesterday it has not received a

single application from any entity whether develop eco-tourism. geothermal energy production, pozzolan mining, or any eco-



Tenorio

nomic development activity on this part of the Northern Islands.

"Options are still open for Pagan," acting DPL secretary Pete A. Tenorio told Saipan Tribune.

He said "portions of it could be used for eco-tourism, others for

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#### MORE INSIDE

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➤ Veto for 'costly' incentive for hiring US workers. PAGE 3

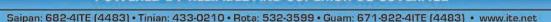
➤ Four receive army commission.

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'Parents are still just as confused, frustrated' PAGE 2 **Tropical storm passes Agrihan, Pagan. PAGE 5** 







**2** TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2013 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Local

>>> PTSA's requested

yet to happen

meeting with BOE

## 'Parents are still just as confused, frustrated'

moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The president of the Parents-Teachers-Students-Association of Tanapag Elementary School bared yesterday the frustration of many parents about the proposed merger of Tanapag and Gregorio T. Camacho elementary schools.

Shawnalei Ogumoro said the

parents' group has yet to be given the opportunity to meet with the Board of Education after its last meeting when the proposal was formally presented to board.

She revealed that there have been meetings but all these are between the PSS management, GTC and TES parents. These meetings, she added, focused on what appears to be the inevitable consolidation of the two

schools in September.

"There have been meetings by PSS with GTC and TES par-

ents on what to 'expect' in the coming school year if the merger took

place—but no actual BOE and PSS meeting, like we requested. So many of us parents are still

just as confused and frustrated,' Ogumoro told Saipan Tribune. As of yesterday, she has yet

> to get a confirmation of any meeting with the BOE. She's worried that the which merger.

is on the board's agenda for its Thursday meeting, will be decided by the full board without having a meeting with the PTSA.

"I still need to confirm with BOE but to my understanding the 'decision' meeting is scheduled for July 11," she said.

The merger plan for the two elementary schools is targeted for implementation when classes open on Sept. 3.

In a presentation to the board, Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., said the main objective of the plan is to lessen the high students-to-teacher ratio in schools and to create a new middle school in Tanapag.

Each school has over 200 students from kindergarten to sixth grade.

Under the plan, GTC will become home to K-5<sup>th</sup> students while Tanapag will become a middle school, for sixth to eight

graders. Doing this is expected to reduce the perennial overcrowding problem at Hopwood Junior High School.

At the June 17 meeting, BOE chair Herman T. Guerrero referred the proposal to two committees—the fiscal and personnel committee and the committee on instruction and curriculum—for further review.

Both committees are scheduled to tackle the proposal this week.

Guerrero earlier assured parents of TES who were present at the June meeting that the board will consult all stakeholders before any decision is made.

#### Jury trial of ex-CUC board chair Guerrero begins

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The alleged victim took the witness stand yesterday at the start of the jury trial in the Superior Court of former Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board chair Francisco Q. Guerrero who is facing charges of allegedly molesting a female minor.

The now 17-year-old girl cried as she emerged from the courtroom and tightly hugged her mother and family members.

The alleged victim testified how Guerrero first sexually abused her when she was in ninth grade, followed by five other incidents after that.

She said the last was on May 25, 2012, when Guerrero brought her to the Veterans Cemetery in Marpi, supposedly to teach her how to drive a car.

The girl said the defendant fondled himself and touched her privates. "I felt so violated after that," she said.

She said Guerrero told her not to tell anyone but she finally confessed to her mother what he did to her.

When she first told her mother about it, she told her it happened to a friend

When assistant attorney general Margo Brown asked her why she did that, the girl said she wanted to first see her mother's reaction.

When her mother stated that her friend should tell her parents, it took awhile for her to confess that it actually happened to her.

"I was so nervous," she said, adding that her mother was stunned. "I was then crying."

When her father learned about

it, she said he was shocked and could not believe it.

The alleged victim also said that Guerrero would tell her that he's lonely and that he's the only one working in the family.

The trial will continue today, Tuesday, at 9am. Associate Judge David A. Wiseman is presiding over the jury trial.

Attorney Brien Sers Nicholas is counsel for the 63-year-old Guerrero.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Guerrero with 15 crimes: two counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree; one count of sexual abuse of a minor in the fourth degree; three counts of assault and battery; two counts of indecent exposure in the first degree; two counts of indecent exposure in second degree; and five counts of disturbing the peace.

## PSS awards selection process to be changed

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The Board of Education wants its awards selection process revisited following "chronic" issues raised during graduation time, when the existing regulation is questioned.

Board chair Herman T. Guerrero confirmed with Saipan *Tribune* that he has directed Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., to begin the discussion about amending the award policy.

He said the review will ensure that all schools follow the regulation and consistently applies it to all students every school year.

"It seems that we have chronic issues every year on these requirements. Even the commissioner had also raised some issues [on this] so I want this problem to be addressed," Guerrero said.

He said there may be potential changes in the language of the existing policy to ensure that the practice in schools is consistent with the guideline.

Sablan confirmed that there

is a need to revisit the policy at this time.

She said there are issues surrounding the selection process for major awards, including the naming of the Top 10 awardees for both middle and high schools.

"As time goes, we need to review policies and regulations to make sure they are consistent with the best practices and the way things are organized within the schools," she said.

She cited as an example how schools determine their valedictorian and salutatorian, including the Top 10 awardees.

"For example, if the board is saying that in order to be selected in the Top 10, they have to have AP [advanced placement] courses. But if these are not offered in schools do we really need to account for AP courses in order for you to be weighted in the valedictorian, salutatorian, or Top 10?" asked Sablan.

Besides this, Sablan disclosed that there are also some concerns about transferred students.

"When a student transferred from other school district to come to our school, how many years do they have to be in our schools before they are considered for these honors (residency requirement)? Or are we saying that we need to narrow down the requirement because it is not fair?" she added.

For Sablan, it should all boil down to performance.

"Because at the end of the day when kids perform, they perform on behalf of the PSS. For me, everything is fair," she said.

According to the commissioner, she will discuss the issue with secondary principals and the legal counsel before coming up with a recommendation to the board committee, which will then endorse it for board action.

Sablan pointed out that any potential changes in the policy will exclude the existing credit requirements for high school graduation, which is 28 credits.

'Our credit requirement is fine and this is not about numbers, but the courses they have taken to prepare them to be successful in college and career," she told Saipan Tribune.

#### NMC looks into college credit for work, life experience

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth\_depos

The Northern Marianas College is currently exploring a mechanism by which students are awarded college credit, certification, or advanced standing for learning they gained outside the traditional academic environment.

The learning may have been gained from experience while working, participating in employer training programs, serving in the military, studying independently, or through other means.

"Many institutions across the country already recognize prior learning and experience as a basis to award credit," said Barbara Merfalen, dean of Academic Programs and Services.

Merfalen recently formed an ad hoc committee to research, discuss, and make recommendations to the college's Academic Council about how to best address experiential learning or prior learning assessment for students at NMC.

The ad hoc committee is

composed of faculty members Lorraine T. Cabrera, who chairs the committee; Zerlyn Taimanao, Bobbie Hunter, Charlotte Cepeda, and Johnny Aldan. Frankie Eliptico, who works in the college's External Relations Office, is also part of the committee.

'We are looking at developing policies and procedures that would recognize and award credit based on learning that has taken place through life and work experiences. We want to ensure that best practices are applied and that the highest standards are adhered to," according to Merfalen.

She said the formation of the ad hoc committee also allows the institution to ensure that any step it takes will conform to accreditation standards and requirements.

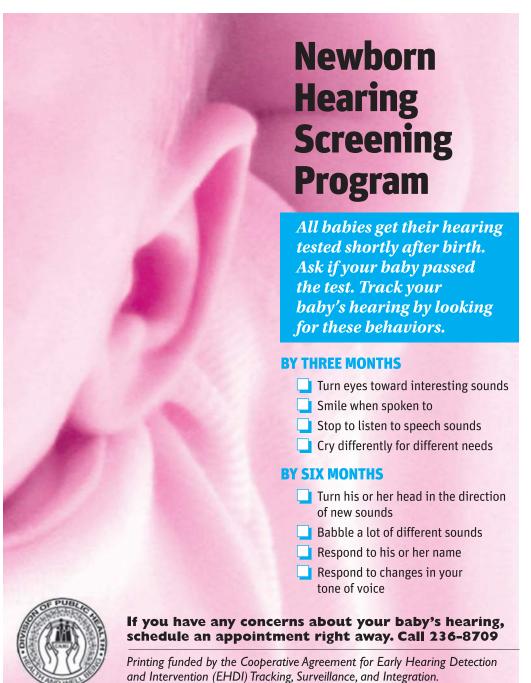
"We hope to have a set of recommendations about prior learning assessments to the NMC president [Sharon Hart, Ph.D.] within the next few weeks," added Merfalen.

Based on the "State Policy Approaches to Support Prior

Learning Assessment' compiled by non-profit organization CAEL and public policy consulting and advocacy firm HCM, prior learning assessment, or PLA, is a valid yet underused process of evaluating and recognizing learning that helps adults to earn credit for knowledge acquired through work, training, volunteer and union activities, hobbies, and other life experiences.

PLA, based on researches, can help more workers complete training and degree programs sooner by giving them college credit for knowledge and competencies they've gained outside of the classroom. PLA can save students time and money, and the boost in creditearning might also have a motivating effect for some students.

Research also indicates that many states in the U.S. have adapted PLA in their postsecondary institutions, the policies of which are either established through their educational boards and councils or through legislation enacted by their governments.



## Veto for 'costly' incentive for hiring US workers, developer's tax use

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com

Gov. Eloy S. Inos vetoed yesterday two House bills, including one that seeks to given businesses a \$1,500 tax credit for every U.S. worker they hire because the governor said it is "too costly" or would result in "tremendous loss" for the government and could be subject to "improper manipulation."

"While the government seeks to stimulate local employment, we must do so in the most costeffective methods possible. [House Bill 18-21], while notable for its effort, seems to be too costly an endeavor that could be subject to improper manipulation," Inos said in his veto letter addressed to legislative leaders.

The governor also vetoed House Bill 18-9, which seeks to allow the use of developer

infrastructure tax for the "repair of government buildings and structures."

The governor said this expenditure authority is "too broad" and "contrary to the specific purpose of the developer infrastructure tax and the significant existing need for these funds."

#### Tax credit

Rep. Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan), author of the tax incentive bill, said yesterday he's "disappointed" with the veto of the measure that he believes would entice businesses to hire U.S. workers.

"I still believe the cost or loss to government would be outweighed by the benefits of having our U.S. workers employed. If they're given an opportunity to work, they don't have to rely a lot on government assistance programs," Sablan told Saipan Tribune.

Sablan also said nonresident workers continue to hold most of the private sector jobs.

"We have to look at ways to have these U.S. workers employed," he said. But Sablan said he will carefully review the governor's concerns.

The governor, in his veto message, said he has carefully considered HB 18-21's nature and structure. He cited two reasons for disapproving the bill.

First, he said the United States previously provided a similar short-term incentive for employees who were hired prior to Jan. 1, 2011, during the depth of the financial crisis experienced during this time period, but this program has since expired and was not extended.

Second, it is "too costly" and

would result in "tremendous loss for the government."

Inos said that HB 18-21 would require the CNMI to verify the individual employment status of each employee for whom the credit is sought.

He said that although not stated, it is assumed that any individual who had any income during the current year would be excluded from participation.

The language of HB 18-21, the governor said, implies that this tax credit would be available for a three-year period, from 2013 to 2015.

"Although this would be a significant incentive, it also would be a tremendous loss of government revenues," the governor added.

Under the disapproved bill,

qualified employers could avail of a nonrefundable tax credit of \$1,500 per worker against tax imposed on CNMI-sourced income. The proposed tax credit expires on Dec. 31, 2015.

#### **Developer's tax**

The governor, in vetoing House floor leader Ralph Demapan's (Cov-Saipan) HB 18-9, said the main purpose of the developer infrastructure tax is to provide a source of dedicated funding for capital infrastructure needed to accommodate new development.

As identified by the language of the developer infrastructure tax statute, approved expenditures include improvements to electrical, water, wastewater, road, drainage and solid waste systems, he said.

As is evidenced by many citations from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Inos said all these systems are in need of critical repairs and the commitment of limited re-

"However, in spite of the documented need to supplement resources committed to this critical infrastructure, HB 18-9 would allow developer infrastructure tax to be used for 'repair of government buildings and structures.' This expenditure authority is too broad and contrary to the specific purpose of the developer infrastructure tax and the significant existing need for these funds," the governor said.



#### Inos names new OVR director

Gov. Eloy S. Inos appointed yesterday Arlene Kay A. Yamagata to serve as director for the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, about a month after former OVR director Margarita Olopai-Taitano resigned for personal reasons.

Yamagata's appointment takes effect immediately, as the Senate's advice and consent is not required.

"I am confident that you will devote your time and efforts to your new duties and responsibilities. Your willingness to serve our community is most appreciated," Inos said in his one-page appointment letter.

The governor also issued a memo vesterday to all department and activity heads about the appointment, and asked for their full cooperation and support as Yamagata assumes her new duties and responsibilities.

The governor, meanwhile, has yet to name a replacement for executive assistant for Carolinian affairs Angie Iginoef-Mangarero, who stepped down on May 8 "amid her decision to retire from government service." (Haidee V. Eugenio)

#### Backman moves for acquittal or new trial

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

ferdie delatorre@saipantribune.com

A karaoke club operator who was convicted of sex trafficking last month, has asked the federal court that she be acquitted or afforded a new trial.

Chang Ru Meng Backman, through counsel Joaquin DLG. Torres, said there simply cannot be a guilty verdict when there was no evidence that she knew or was in reckless disregard that force, threat of force, fraud, or coercion would be used against one of the three alleged victim by customer Peter Leau or the other customer to engage in commercial sex.

convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant is guilty, said Torres in Backman's motion for judgment of acquittal as to jury verdict for count 2.

The 12 jurors found Backman guilty of one count of sex trafficking by force, fraud, or coercion, but acquitted her of two counts of same charges involving two other women. Her sentencing will be on Sept. 13, 2013.

Torres said jury note dated June 4, 2013, asked for the meaning of a unanimous vote.

When given a response, Torres pointed out that the jurors came up with another note,

dated June 6, 2013, for the court to "please accept their decision" as they cannot come up with a unanimous decision.

"The jury instruction is clear that if after careful and impartial consideration of all the evidence, they are not convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant is guilty, it is their duty to find the defendant not guilty," Torres said.

He asserted that the U.S. government provided a lot of testimony about how one of the three alleged victim was unhappy about what she was doing and that she did not come to Saipan to be a prostitute.

Torres pointed out that during Evidently, the jurors are not direct examination by the prosecution, there was testimony that the alleged victim engaged in sexual intercourse with various men regularly.

> He said the government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Backman knew that force. fraud, or coercion would be used to cause the alleged victim to engage in commercial sex acts.

More importantly, Torres said, Leau's testimony proves that the sexual intercourse was consensual.

Torres said that when asked if the girls wanted to come back for more services in the future, the girls would say, "See you next time."





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## House panel to wrap up budget talks today

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan) said yesterday that the panel will wrap up today its deliberation on the governor's proposed \$123.4 million budget for fiscal year 2014, so that a bill could be pre-filed shortly. He said the committee has not changed the proposed budgets for Rota and Tinian, as well as for the Saipan and Northern Islands mayors' offices.

Among the major decisions House lawmakers will make today is whether or not to scrap the governor's plan to privatize parks maintenance services, with only two months left before the supposed implementa-

The panel will finalize today the budgets for agencies.

Meanwhile, committee member Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan) said yesterday he has identified \$1.6 million in the governor's proposed budget that could be redistributed to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and other critical agencies.

Yumul said he will raise the issue in today's budget deliberation.

he identified some \$800,000 that could be given to CHC. The rest were identified from other Executive Branch agencies.

Earlier, the committee iden-In one agency alone, he said tified some \$300,000 from dif-

## Que OK'd to remove monitoring device

The U.S. government has consented to Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino VIP services manager George Que's request to remove his electronic monitoring device.

Attorney Robert T. Torres. counsel for Que, and assistant U.S. attorney Marivic P. David, filed yesterday in federal court an agreement to modify Que's bail conditions by removing the electronic device to allow him to travel from Tinian to Saipan to meet with his lawyer.

The parties agreed that the modification is necessary to allow Que to aid in the defense of his case.

Torres said the U.S. government has produced a substantial amount of discovery documents, currently bound into over 15 binders, and that he needs Que to be present to review these documents.

Torres said the most recent CD-ROM production is for over 14,000 pages of documents.

Torres said he is unable to travel to Tinian to meet with Que and it will be more convenient for the defendant to travel to Saipan.

The indictment charged Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas)

Investments Ltd., which owns Tinian Dynasty, Que, and casino manager Tim Blythe with one count of conspiracy to cause a financial institution to fail to file a currency transaction report and nine counts of causing a financial institution to fail to file a currency transaction report.

According to the charges, Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino allowed gamblers to conduct transactions involving more than \$10,000 without filing CTRs with the U.S. government since September 2009 up to the present.

The defendants pleaded not guilty. (Ferdie de la Torre)

#### SAIPAN

From Page 1

ning to tap a private contractor to alleviate the problem.

#### To cap or not to cap

The capping of highway medians in Susupe and Chalan Piao, and the ongoing work at the Chalan Kiya median by the Department of Public Works has led Flores to appeal directly to Gov. Eloy S. Inos to intercede in the matter.

"The governor should make a decision whether he wants concrete also or beautify the community. If the governor would like to see the island to be beautified and try to entice visitors and make the community happy, he should speak to Martin [DPW Secretary Martin Sablan] and say 'cease and desist. Stop your project.' Because we want to see the effort of our community rewarded."

Flores' adviser, Henry Hofschneider, didn't mince words about the recent actions of DPW and said there are better alternatives to just pouring cement on the medians.

"Instead of concrete, we can put in bricks to bring color to the intersection. Look at the San Vicente intersection. It's all concrete. That's an ugly design. That's a sad excuse for an intersection and it's stupid and pathetic!" he said.

In a letter to Flores late last week, Sablan justified the capping of the medians as part of DPW's \$1.5-million traffic signal system upgrade.

He said this involves the replacement of traffic controls at 19 major intersections on Saipan, "cleaning, and reconstructing of medians according to the plans provided by DPW, and replacement of signage, striping the lane dividers, shoulders, traffic markings, and crosswalk markings in the vicinity of the intersection."

Sablan also reiterated that the capping of the medians is a

safety concern.

"The public must recognize [that] medians are features of the highway for channelization to help facilitate control of traffic, and are not planter boxes. However, we have made careful considerations to accommodate beautification concerns. Therefore, by maintaining several existing trees and plants that we have identified to be suitable for the location and environmental conditions, DPW has developed a well balanced approach to address safety, beautification, maintenance demands, and longevity of the existing infrastructure."

#### **Tree-pruning campaign**

The tree-pruning campaign was a decided success for the mayor's office. The only problem is that the absence of a bucket truck has stopped it dead on its

"We're still doing it but our bucket truck broke so we can't reach the higher branches of trees," said Hofschenider, who noted that the project is in coordination with the Division of Forestry.

"We're coordinating with Forestry because they know which trees are in bad shape and needs to be cut."

So far, trees from the Garapan Fishing Base southwards have gotten the beauty treatment but it stopped short of Susupe, leaving trees that line Beach Road from Susupe to San Antonio unpruned.

Aside from the obvious aesthetics, Flores said the treepruning project actually serves a more practical purpose.

"A rotten tree falling down is one, but the safety of the pedestrian walking at night is another. We are still getting a lot of calls all the way in San Antonio asking whether we will be continuing it or not. We will, once we get that bucket truck," he said.

Hofschenider said the cost to buy a new bucket truck is \$40,000. Unfortunately, the mayor's office has been waiting

the better part of the last two fiscal years for the Legislature to appropriate that funding.

"I guess we're lower down on their priority list. But we really need it. We also use it to remove coconuts, especially at school campuses. For now, we're doing it manually by using an extension for a manual saw," said Hofschenider.

#### **Private contracting**

With the help of private contractor S. & Sons/ARA, the mayor's office has also been running an efficient junk car collection program the past couple of years and, amazingly, without cost to the government.

Hofschneider said the private company collects the junk cars and bring them to Lower Base where they have a permit that allows them to process the junk car.

"They tear it apart and everything they need, they take. The only thing they bring to the landfill I think are the dashboards and those that cannot be recycled," he said.

So far, Tudela said, S. & Sons/ARA removed more than 100 junk cars on Saipan in 2013 alone. They're still getting calls everyday for junk car removal.

"They're still plenty out there. We don't have a count right now. But those we have collected, there's more out there," he said.

#### **Illegal trash dumpsites**

To stop the practice of illegal dumping, Hofschneider said that Flores wants private contracting to work its magic.

Currently, illegal dumpsites proliferate in Koblerville and Kagman.

"We have a plan to have a convenience center set up for residents to throw their trash in. For example, in Koblerville, it will be situated in the old airport area because there will be concerns about the flies, rodents, smell so we need to place it away from residential population. It will be a fenced-in area with one entrance and one exit.

Residents pay a monthly fee, maybe \$10, \$15, \$20. It depends. And because it will be run by a private company, I bet you they will keep it clean."

Besides solving the problem, Flores also wants the public to be aware that illegal dumpsites are, well, illegal.

'We want to remove trash and junk from that area and give public education to people in the area to try and control it. Koblerville and Kagman have this kind of problem. In Kagman, people just drive by and throw trash from their moving car. Also the public beach north of Pacific Islands Club, you go down there and there's a lot of trash. That's why I always go to KKMP and ask the community to clean their mess after going on a picnic, that they should bring a trash bag. If everyone does that, we can have cleanliness."

Also in the pipeline is a plan to provide seedlings and topsoil to residents so that beautification will also reach the inner villages.

Flores said they already have a nursery in Chalan Kanoa and, when the program starts, residents only need to bring their empty flowers parts there and they will get seedlings and topsoil for a minimal fee.

"It's not only the roads and main thoroughfares that need to be beautified. It's also the inner villages. Tourists also go around villages and, when they see well-kept homes and yards, they will come back again and say 'This is a good place to visit. It's nice."

Hofschneider said that making the island clean and beautiful is not only for tourists but for residents as well.

"It's like when you go to work you have to shower. If you don't shower people are going to smell that you stink. So if we have a dirty island and we bring in tourists maybe it's a one-time trip and they'll never come back. We want repeat visitors. So let's keep it clean."

redistributed. Of this amount,

ferent agencies that could be \$100,000 has been added to the Judiciary's budget.

#### **PAGAN**

From Page 1

pozzolan mining, for military use, for socio-economic interests because of people wanting to go back to Pagan and live there. There are different types of activities that can be accommodated."

The CNMI government has been finding ways to generate revenue to prolong the NMI Retirement Fund's lifespan and sustain other public services. Two years ago, former governor Benigno R. Fitial offered to lease some Northern Islands to Chinese investors but there have been no takers.

Succeeding interests included mining pozzolan on Pagan by a group of Japanese investors in exchange for the island receiving tons of debris from the March 2011 tsunami that struck Japan. This didn't pan out mainly over environmental safety concerns.

Pozzolan, volcanic spewed on Pagan, is used as an additive to make cement.

The U.S. Department of Defense announced early this year its plans to use Pagan, along with Tinian, for live-fire training. However, at this stage, the plan is met with opposition from CNMI residents.

As of yesterday, Gov. Eloy S. Inos has yet to request President Barack Obama for Covenant Section 902 talks between the CNMI and the United States on DoD's planned use of Pagan, federal control of local immigration and a host of other issues.

Vlad Melnik, general manager of Volcano Tours Travel, said he and business partners have held off their plans to develop eco-tours on Pagan until they get a clearer picture of what the U.S. military intends to do on Pagan and what the CNMI government would allow them to do on the island.

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) reiterated yesterday that after numerous discussions, the government has yet to decide whether to reinstate JG Sablan's permit to mine pozzolan on Pagan, seven years after a government lawsuit that he said "has not done anything to contribute to the economy.'

With millions worth of pozzolan on Pagan that could be forever lost once the U.S. military uses the island for live-fire training, the Senate by adopting a resolution that Torres authored—asked the governor and DPL to reinstate JG Sablan Rock Quarry Inc.'s pozzolan commercial mining permit on Pagan.

Tenorio said yesterday that DPL and the administration are still reviewing the matter.

"There's benefit-cost ratio that needs to be reviewed. If we want to plan something, we need to plan it right. We could combine projects to maximize

the use of public lands. There are military interests, commercial interests, and socio-economic interests. Each of will take a lot of planning," Tenorio

Torres said numerous studies have been done on pozzolan deposits on Pagan, all the while the government's financial problems are piling up.

"Whether it's 200 million or 20 million metric tons of pozzolan on Pagan, the government will be earning revenue by way of business gross revenue and royalty fees," Torres said.

He added that it is in government hands to allow revenuegeneration from pozzolan mining on Pagan, by withdrawing the lawsuit against JG Sablan, reinstating its mining permit, and requesting agencies such as the Division of Environmental Quality, Division of Fish and Wildlife, and Coastal Resources Management to aid JG Sablan for it to start mining pozzolan on the island.

JG Sablan Rock Quarry Inc. was the holder of a commercial mining permit issued on Sept. 8, 1995, by the Marianas Public Land Corp., now DPL. That permit was for the mining and extraction of pozzolan on Pagan.

DPL terminated the commercial mining permit on May 3, 2006. After six years of litigation, the CNMI Supreme Court upheld on March 30, 2012, the termination of JG Sablan's mining permit.

Torres said pozzolan mining on Pagan could be an alternative to legalizing casino gambling on Saipan, which he said had already been rejected twice by Saipan voters.

#### **Public hearings**

Meanwhile, three Senate committees will be holding a joint public hearing on House Bill 18-45, House Draft 7, legalizing casino gaming on Saipan, as well as HB 18-51. HD4 allowing electronic gaming at hotels.

The public hearing on Tinian will be held on July 19 at 6pm at Tinian Elementary School.

There are three public hearings planned for Saipan but as of yesterday, only one has been confirmed—on July 23, 6pm, at GTC Elementary School. The Rota public hearing schedule will be announced later.

These three Senate panels joining forces are the committees on Resources and Economic Development Programs, Fiscal Affairs, and Judiciary, Government and Law.

Meanwhile, the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee will also hold a public hearing on HB 18-46, House Draft 1, to allow members of the Defined Contribution Plan to withdraw their account balance without terminating employment.

It will be held on July 11, Thursday, 6pm, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

## Tropical storm passes Agrihan, Pagan

A tropical depression developed into a tropical storm and passed Agrihan and Pagan yesterday afternoon with maximum sustained winds of 45 miles per hour.

Tropical Storm Soulik was celled the tropical storm warn-

about 125 miles west of Agrihan, 150 miles west-northwest of Pagan, 305 miles northnorthwest of Saipan, and 395 miles north of Guam.

At the time, the National As of 4pm, the center of Weather Service in Guam caning for Agrihan and Pagan. Moving west at a speed of

15mph, the closest the storm came to Agrihan and Pagan was at 10am when Soulik's center was 30 miles north of Agrihan, 75 miles north of Pagan, and 280 miles north of Saipan.

According to NWS and the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office, Tropical Storm Soulik was expected to intensify yesterday afternoon through

Gov. Eloy S. Inos advised

in Pagan and Alamagan, to closely follow the progress and evolution of the system through the CNMI Homeland Security and EMO, CNMI Dispatch Center, and local media sources.

NWS said the storm effects include offshore seas of 10 to 14 feet that will result in dangerous

the public, especially those surf of 12 to 16 feet on exposed shores through Tuesday. Rip currents will be very strong and life threatening.

> The weather agency said that heavy rain and isolated thunderstorms will produce rainfall of 4 to 6 inches through Monday night with additional rainfall on Tuesday. (Ferdie de la Torre)

## Camacho denies bid to disqualify himself from manslaughter case

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has denied the Office of the Public Defender's motion to disqualify himself from presiding over proceedings in the case against Felix Kileleman Jr., who faces manslaughter charges for allegedly assaulting a teenager with another suspect. The victim later died after being run over by two vehicles.

Camacho said Friday it would be objectively unreasonable for a person to question his impartiality simply because he described the reasons for denying Kileleman's bail modification request.

The judge said the questioned statements in his bail modification order do not show antagonism toward Kileleman but rather demonstrate that he was weighing the factors cited in the statute and the Commonwealth Rules of Criminal Procedure.

The Office of the Attorney General has charged Kileleman with one count of involuntary manslaughter and one count of assault and battery over the death of 19-year-old Jefferson Kiauol Keju.

Assistant public defender Benjamin K. Petersburg, counsel for 19-year-old Kileleman, asked for Camacho's recusal based on the judge's statements in a written order rejecting bail modification.

Petersburg cited Camacho's statement that "defendant and co-defendant chased the victim into the highway where they proceeded to beat the victim into the ground. Weakened, vulnerable and lying on the highway, the victim was struck by two cars...the defendants brutally attacked the victim."

Petersburg said the statements recite the allegations as facts, characterize those facts in an inflammatory manner, and ultimately appear to show that Camacho has already passed judgment on Kileleman.

Camacho heard the motion on Friday. Assistant attorney general Chemere McField opposed the motion.

In his order, Camacho said that opinions and comments accompanying a ruling or remarks during the course of a trial may support a partiality challenge if based on an extrajudicial source and "if they reveal such a high degree of favoritism or antagonism as to make fair judgment impossible."

He said the Commonwealth has, a handful of times, addressed motions for disqualification based on statements made by the court in the same

legal proceeding. In all such

cases, the motion for recusal

was denied, he said. Camacho said he is not convinced that the statements could cause his impartiality to be questioned when understood in the context of the legal standards applicable when considering a request for pretrial release.

Camacho said his statements describe the acts of the defendant as allegations and are responsive to factors the court must weigh when making decisions on pre-trial release.

The questioned statements, he said, speak directly to the nature and circumstances of the offense charged.

Police said that Kileleman and Herman S. Fitial were in a store when a fight broke out with the alleged victim, Keju, on the evening of Jan. 1, 2013, in central Garapan.

The defendants allegedly chased Keju into the highway where they beat them up. Lying on the highway, the teenager was hit by two cars and eventually died.

today, Tuesday.



#### IT&E DONATION FOR EDUCATION CONFERENCE

IT&E managing director Rose Soledad, third from left, presents a \$2,000 donation to Associate Commissioner for Administrative Services Glen Muña, second from left, to support the hosting of the Pacific Education Conference next week on Saipan. Others in photo are, from left, PEC organizing committee members Donna Flores and Joe Torres, IT &E customer service manager Janice Tenorio, and IT &E marketing manager Hans Mickelson. According to Soledad, "IT&E is proud to support the Pacific Education Conference. Throughout the year we support our local Public School System at various levels. Now we're lucky enough to directly support teachers from all corners of the Pacific by being a part of professional development opportunities like the PEC.

## Survey seeks to determine attitudes to alcohol, tobacco, other drugs

The CNMI Department of Commerce's Central Statistics Division, in collaboration with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Project Brabu Office, would like to inform the public of their upcoming 2013 CNMI Behavioral Health Survey.

The purpose of the survey is to collect cross-sectional data to produce statistical description of behavioral health topics—the use and attitudes toward the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs and mental health and

stigma-of the adult population in the CNMI. This data will then be used by corporation and other officials to produce the National Outcome Measures for the Commonwealth in the areas of behavioral health. Simply put, the survey will help determine priority health issues and develop strategic plans to support appropriate public health policies and monitor the effectiveness of intervention measures and the achievement of prevention programs.

"To successfully complete this survey, an estimate of 760 to 900 homes on Saipan and 130 to 200 homes on each island of Tinian and Rota will be selected randomly to be visited by enumerators with proper identifications and documentations from our office," said Commerce Secretary Sixto K. Igisomar. "If your household is selected, we humbly request for your cooperation. Your participation is critical for a successful completion of this survey."

This survey will start on July 13, 2013. This project is being funded by the corporation through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant.

For any questions or comments, contact the Central Statistics director, Alfonis M. Sound via e-mail at director. csd@commerce.gov.mp or call (670)-664-3023/45. (Office of the Governor)

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8:30am - 4:00pm

Saturday, July 13th

9:00am - 1:00pm

at Marianas Medical Center in Garapan



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234-3925/7

Insurance accepted: AETNA and Medicaid



## HANMI's Nishikawa hopes CW program will be extended

have enough trained local residents to take over positions that will be left behind by contract workers, Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa is crossing his fingers that the 2014 deadline for the CW program will be extended.

In an interview during the Garapan landmark's "Celebrating Our People" 2012 employee recognition dinner last Wednesday, Nishikawa said their ho-

Saying the islands still doesn't tel's resident employees now outnumber contract workers but they still need the skills and expertise of the latter in the conceivable future.

> "If that thing [non-extension of CW program deadline] is going to happen, how are we going to operate the hotel? OK, we have very good resident workers but not enough, not enough," he said.

Nishikawa, who is also chairman of the Hotel Association of

the Northern Mariana Islands, said that some 45 percent of Hyatt's 254 employees are contract workers.

"We're just going to pray for an extension [of the CW program] so we can train more resident workers," he said.

Aside from airing hopes that the CW program will be extended, Nishikawa also took time to thank Hyatt staff during the yearly employee recognition awards.

'We're doing this to show how much we appreciate staff who are working very hard to help build up the Hyatt brand name. In the hotel business, the staff is the most important factor to run the hotel, to the serve

the customers, and those things."

"The business is getting better compared to a few years back. In our business, without staff we



Nishikawa

cannot run the hotel. This is a people-oriented business.' Hyatt human re-

cannot operate. With-

out our workers we

sources director Joonded Nishikawa's sentiments.

"Every Hyatt around the world is celebrating this event and it actually started since mid-June. We kind of give back to

the employees and give gratitude for their hard work and getting us to where we have to be," she said.

Other winners of Hyatt's yearly employee awards were Leader of the Year awardee sephine Mesta sec- Anthea Baltazar (Rooms), Trainer of the Year Rosalie Delos Santos (Food and Beverage), and Hafa Adai Spirit winners Ryan Litulumar (Food and Beverage) and Celing Fogata (Pomec). (Mark Rabago)



Marianas High School students who will be taking part in the Kakehashi Project have their picture taken with their chaperones, Janice Muña and Svetlana Atalig, Japanese Consul Koji Hiro and school principal Cherlyn Cabrera.

#### MHS students take part in 'Kakehashi Project' Japan-U.S. Educational Com-

Students of Marianas High School are packing up to go on a trip to Japan to learn about the

and explore the sights of Japan.

This trip, called the "Kakehashi" project, is funded by the Japanese culture, everyday life Japanese Ministry of Foreign

mission in order to show young students from America, including the CNMI, the opportunity to explore Japan in hopes that these students would inspire other young students to study abroad in Japan and also to expose Japanese students to other cultures in hopes that they too

will study abroad in America. These organizations, along with the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership, have put together an economically beneficial tour trip that will promote the building of relations between the youth of Japan and America. Other high schools in America have been chosen to join Marianas High School to participate in this project. Students from these schools also have the objectives of raising awareness of the Japanese brand. They are also assisting with raising the Japanese economy by going back to their hometown and sharing their stories of Japan.

The Marianas High School students are enthusiastic about the opportunity to explore a foreign land with expectations of learning about their culture, language, and historical sites. Also, the diversity of the students along with the Japanese would promote interracial communications and interactions. (PR)



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#### NEW CLUB TO CHARTER IN SAIPAN

Informational Meeting

Thursday, July 18, 2013 DATE:

12:00 PM to 1:00 PM TIME:

PLACE: Fiesta Resort Saipan

Azucena Ballroom

RSVP: simarianas@soroptimist.net

Attention: Jessica Castro by Tuesday, July 16th

"Improving the lives of women & girls in local communities and around the world."

#### of a common Japanese person, Affairs in cooperation with the U.S. Navy Public Notice **Availability of Final Environmental Assessment** and Finding of No Significant Impact

The United States Department of the Navy (Navy), in cooperation with the U.S. Air Force and Federal Aviation Administration, completed the Mariana Islands Range Complex (MIRC) Airspace Final Environmental Assessment/Overseas Environmental Assessment (EA/OEA) for proposed modifications to military training airspace and sea space in the MIRC

#### PROPOSED ACTION:

The Proposed Action is to enhance training and safety requirements to implement levels of training analyzed in the MIRC Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to maintain, train and equip combat-ready military forces. The Proposed Action consists of modification to existing training airspace and sea space within the MIRC; however, the type of training ed with the Prop osed Action would not differ from the July 2010 Record of Decision for the MIRC EIS/OEIS

Under the preferred alternative, the Navy would:

- . Extend the Restricted Area (R-7201) at Farallon de Medinilla (FDM) from 3 nautical miles (nm) to 12 nm and designate the new Restricted Area as R-7201A
- Create new Warning Areas, designated as W-11, W-12, and W-13, which would replace existing Air Traffic Control Assigned Airspace 1, 2, and 3
- Expand the planned 10 nm surface Danger Zone around FDM to 12 nm (congruent with proposed R-7201A)

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to maximize public awareness of hazardous military training activities and to optimize safety and training efficiency. The Proposed Action is needed to support training activities that involve the use of advanced weapons systems. Implementation of the preferred alternative would meet the Navy's purpose and need by ensuring activities are conducted safely in controlled areas.

#### PUBLIC OUTREACH:

The Navy held open house information sessions for the Draft EA/OEA on Jan. 15, 2013, in Mangilao, Guam, and Jan. 17, 2013, in Susupe, Saipan. Public and agency comments received during a 45-day public review period were considered in the development of the Final EA/OEA.

does not need to be prepared before this action is implemented. FOR MORE **INFORMATION:** Visit the project website: w.MIRCAirspaceEA.con or contact: Vaval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific

FINDING OF

NO SIGNIFICANT

IMPACT OR HARM:

The environmental

analysis documented in

the Final EA/OEA

no significant impact or

harm to the environment

from proposed

modifications to airspace

and sea space. As a

result, further

environmental analysis

Attention: MIRC Airspace EA/OEA Project Manager 258 Makalapa Drive Suite 100 Pearl Harbor, HI 96860

## Per-child cost of education in the CNMI below \$3K

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

The CNMI Public School System expects to face major challenges in the coming years, not the least of which is declining funding support from the government, resulting in a per-child cost of less than \$3,000 to educate CNMI students.

"The challenge for the PSS includes a declining local investment in public education that is now less than \$3,000 per student. Six out of every 10 children attending our public schools comes from families with income below the federal poverty guideline," bared the latest audit report of PSS for fiscal year 2012.

To put that in context, Guam allocates a \$5,600 per-child cost using local funds. U.S. Virgin Islands has a per-child cost of \$11,000.

million, the projected per child cost this fiscal year will only be \$2,600. That makes the CNMI's per child cost among the lowest in the entire United States.

PSS has an enrollment of nearly 11,000 in 19 public schools and about 2,000 in private schools. To get the per-child cost, PSS divides the total budget amount by the total enrollees in both private and public schools.

Compared to other Pacific Using the PSS budget of \$30 islands and neighboring Guam,

CNMI-PSS will be on the bottom list of school districts receiving small local funding support from its government.

The report did note that the CNMI economy has declined from \$2.7 billion in business gross receipts in 1997 to less than \$1 billion two years ago. The economic and population trends continue on a downward spiral.

Despite these challenges, PSS boasts that student achievement continues to grow, with 65 percent of graduating seniors planning to go to college and 30 percent joining the military. The rest hope to find a job or be a homemaker. Based on PSS records, there were 656 seniors who graduated from high school this school year 2012-2013.

This incongruity is thanks in large part to federal grants that have effectively funded quality education initiatives in PSS.

The audit report released last week indicates that federal funds accounted for 53 percent of the total funding received by PSS in fiscal year 2012.

That year, federal funds amounted to \$32.7 million, while local funds totaled \$29.6 million (47 percent), for a grand total of \$62.3 million budget for PSS.

In contrast, local funds accounted for 62 percent of the total sum the system received in fiscal year 2003, with local funds at \$37.2 million and federal funds at just \$23 million.

Since then, local funding has been going down while federal funding has consistently gone up.

## Four CNMI residents recently

received their commissions for second lieutenant in the U.S. Army, as well as their bachelor degrees from the University of Guam.

Second lieutenants Lloyd Garcia Abigania, Matthew Camacho Cabrera, Shuai Chen and Peter Taitano Sakisat were commissioned at the Hilton Resort Guam, and graduated with bachelor degrees from UoG the following day.

"All four of us hope that our accomplishments will show people back home in the CNMI what options for them exist that don't require moving to Hawaii or the mainland for school or enlisting in the Army," said Cabrera. "Second Lt. Chen and I even started smart by enrolling at the Northern Marianas College then moving to Guam to further our studies."

Before attending UoG, Cabrera and Chen had graduated from the Northern Marianas College. Cabrera earned an Associate of Arts degree in Liberal Arts in 2009, while Chen earned two Associate of Applied Science degrees in Business Administration, one with an emphasis in Business Manage-

> **TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION Municipality of Tinian** and Aguiguan Commonwealth of the **Northern Mariana Islands**

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold a Special Meeting on Wednesday, July10, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference room.

#### AGENDA

- Preliminary
  - a) Call to Order b) Roll Call
- c) Adoption of Agenda II. Unfinished Business
- a) Hearing on TDHC Motion for Reconsideration of TCGCC Order No. 13-001-05212013
- III. Adjournment

(Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time)

ment and the other in Computer Applications in 2005. He also earned an Associate of Applied Science degree in Criminal Justice in 2010.

Cabrera went on to earn a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a concentration in marketing from UoG and will be attending the Quartermaster Basic Officer Leader's Course at Army Logistics University in Fort Lee, Virginia. After training, he will serve active duty as a quartermaster officer. Cabrera is the son of Lee and Evonne Cabrera of San Vicente, Saipan, and husband of Micaela Babauta Demapan, with whom he has daughter, Miana Christine.

Chen graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice and will be attending the Infantry Basic Officer Leader's Course at Fort Benning, Georgia, in November. He will later serve active duty as an infantry officer. Chen is married to Toyoko J. Pangelinan of Tanapag, Saipan with whom he has sons, Edward Jr. and David Kuan

Like Chen, Abigania will also be attending the IBOLC at Fort





Four CNMI residents recently received their commissions for second lieutenant in the U.S. Army and graduated from the University of Guam. From left, Northern Marianas College dean of Administration and Resource Development Dave Attao, 2nd Lt. Matthew C. Cabrera, 2nd Lt. Shuai Chen, Sergeant First Class and UoG Training NCO/Military Science III instructor Michael K. Techur, 2nd Lt. Peter T. Sakisat, 2nd Lt. Lloyd G. Abigania, and ROTC NMC Liason Floyd Masga.

then be assigned to the Infantry serve active duty as a military nio, Saipan.

Benning in January. He will intelligence officer. Abigania is the son of Dominador and for three years and will later Leticia Abigania of San Anto-

Tinian native Sakisat graduwill serve in the Guam Army ian. (NMC)

National Guard as an infantry ated with a Bachelor of Science officer. Sakisat is the son of degree in Criminal Justice and Francine Taitano Sakisat of Tin-



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## Kilili says CNMI farmers to get USDA reimbursements

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.con

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said that farmers in the CNMI who signed up for a particular program will soon be receiving checks from the U.S.

Department of Agriculture.

USDA announced last week that it has begun issuing payments for 2012.

Sablan was referring to the Reimbursement of Transportation Cost Payment Program for Geographically Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers.

RTCP helps farmers in remote areas, such as the CNMI, pay some of the costs of shipping their products to market or obtaining fertilizer, seed or other production inputs.

Sablan said the last "farm bill," the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of

2008, authorized the program.

"But the failure of the House of Representatives to pass a new farm bill last month puts the RTCP in limbo for 2013 and beyond," he said.

Besides farm products, aquaculture, floriculture, and the production of fiber,

insects, and livestock are also eligible for the transportation assistance.

Producers must have an average nonfarm income of less than \$500,000 and must comply with certain conservation and wetland protection requirements on their lands as well, Sablan said.



MARK RABAGO

## The grades 1-4 participants of Saipan Community Church's 2013 Vacation Bible School participants pose after receiving their certificates of participation last June 30.

## Saipan Community Church caps successful VBS

With a an average of 79 participants daily and raising more than \$400 to help typhoon victims in the Philippines, Saipan Community Church declared its Vacation Bible School that wrapped up on June 30 a success.

"The pastors, church leadership, and volunteers all consider the Vacation Bible School a success. We had wonderful attendance and an overwhelming number of volunteers. This led to a fantastic week of learning, fun, and bonding. All our goals and objectives were met or exceeded and we are excited to see what

hosting this VBS may lead to," said pastor Jason Warren in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

For the record, Warren said attendance to the weeklong VBS was 59 on Monday, 73 on Tuesday, 86 on Wednesday, 95 on Thursday, and 79 on Friday.

He was also happy to report that the VBS was able to raise \$430.18 over the course of four days. They only started collecting donations on Tuesday.

"The kids really responded to the friendly competition between the boys and the girls. The girls led the offering the first three days of VBS with the boys winning the final day by a very large margin, which ultimately lead to the boys winning overall. ... The real winners are those that are a part of the rebuilding effort in the Philippines that are going to benefit from the children's generosity."

Aside from the 100 or so sign-ups for the weeklong VBS, the church was also able to get help from an average of 52 volunteers per day.

The church gave out several awards, including prizes for both boy and girl in Bible memorization, most friends

brought, and perfect attendance.

The VBS adopted the theme "Breathe It In: God Gives Life" throughout the weeklong summer program as well as specific themes each day. Day 1 was "Breathe in Life" (Genesis 2:4-9; 1:30) and activities were making bubbles and a bubble wand and the outdoor activity was to see how far each child could shoot water out of a straw by using only their breath.

Day 2 was "Breathe in Hope" (Ezekiel 37:1-10) and activities were making skeletons out of pipe cleaners and paper towels and the outdoor activity was a team "Skeleton graved tug-of-w

skeletons made out of paper.
Day 3 was "Breathe in Courage" (Matthew 14:22-33) and activities were making origami boats and the outdoor activity was "Walk With Water" relay were teams moved water with cups from one bucket to another.

Relay" putting together large

Day 4 was "Breathe in Wisdom" (Matthew 7:24-27) and activities were making a play dough house on a rock and the outdoor activity was "Hold-

ing Firm," during which teams played tug-of-war.

Day 5 was "Breathe in New Life" (Acts 2:1-6, 38-42) and activities were paper plate wind twirlers and the outdoor activity was "Balloon Bounce," during which a group holds hands and keeps a balloon in the air as long as they can.

Warren thanked all the participants and volunteers that made the church's 2013 VBS a success and announced that they will again organize a VBS in June 2014. (Mark Rabago)



July 9, 2005

#### Neo Fashion closes doors

Neo Fashion Inc. announced yesterday that it will be closing its operation on Saipan at the end of July after 17 years of operation on the island. Lawyer Rex Kosack, counsel for Neo Fashion, said the closure was mainly a result of the Jan. 1 lifting of the quota requirements for the apparel industry. "The company has been a successful company for the past 17 years. [Neo Fashion's decision to cease operations] is basically due to the Jan. 1 change in the law. It's pretty clear that the buyers are going to other countries," said Kosack. As far as he knew, he said, Neo Fashion did not owe any back wages to its employees. It is also the company's intent to pay its workers until the last day of operation.

## Continental : Wait-and-see on JAL

Continental Micronesia is taking a wait-and-see attitude on calls for airlines to increase flights amid the impending pullout of Japan Airlines. Wally Dias, Continental staff vice president for sales and marketing, said the air carrier had no plans at this time to operate flights between Saipan and Japan. The route will be losing about 100,000 seats as a result of JAL's decision to

suspend flights to Saipan beginning October. Dias noted that passenger demand from the Japan market had yet to recover from the year 2000 levels. "The airfares are still below their peak from Japan to Micronesia. The price of fuel is also impacting that type of decision," he added.

#### July 9, 2006

#### 'Rota flights to continue'

A consensus was reached between Cape Air and local officials "to continue" flights, albeit at a reduced frequency, between Guam and Rota. Sources privy to the discussion Thursday between Cape Air, Rota delegation, and local tourism and ports authorities said that the consensus is for Cape Air to reduce its flights to two per week rather than suspend all flights altogether by October this year. Current-

ly, Cape Air flies the route daily. At the same time, Cape Air would meet with Rota hotels and tourism-based businesses to strike a deal "to guarantee airline seats."

### Waldo: PSS will be hiring 150 teachers

The Public School System will be hiring at least 150 teachers for the upcoming school opening in August, said PSS director of finance Richard Waldo. This is because some of the previous teachers have left the island, either to pursue higher education or to look for "greener pastures." Their ranks were also depleted by last year's retirement of some 60 teachers but some of the retirees have already been replaced, Waldo said. He said the CNMI is not an isolated case in terms of losing its teachers due to the PRAXIS requirement.

#### July 9, 2007

#### More houseworkers, farmers let go

As the July 25 effectivity of the minimum wage increase nears, the Department of Labor is getting more requests from employers to terminate the emand farmers. Labor Secretary Gil M. San Nicolas disclosed to Saipan Tribune that as of Friday five more employers had informed him of their intention to terminate their houseworkers and farmers. San Nicolas said this now brings to 14 the number of employers who explained that they had given their employees notices of termination as they cannot afford the new minimum wage.

## House votes to abolish municipal councils

The House of Representatives voted last week to let the vot-

ers decide whether municipal councils should be abolished. The House passed the initiative to abolish the municipal councils, whose lack of lawmaking power has rendered it insignificant in the eyes of many legislative members. House Legislative Initiative 15-5, authored by Rep. Candido Taman, must be approved by three-fourths of the Senate members before it can be placed on the ballot for referendum. Because it proposes a constitutional amendment, the initiative must receive a majority of the votes cast to become law. The Commonwealth has three municipal councils-one for Saipan and the Northern Islands, one for Tinian, and one for Rota. Each council has three members. The initiative states that the councils' role in municipal government is "superficial and minuscule" because they don't have the power to make laws.

# Eucon hosts Family Day fun at Micro Beach

By REINA S. PEREZ STUDENT REPORTER

Eucon International College celebrated its annual Family Day on Saturday, July 6, at the Micro Beach Pavilion of the American Memorial Park.

Family Day is a "church function" where "we gather all the family members as well as the students. And every year we have a Family Day wherein we would like to have our family come together," according to Eucon's associate pastor Rev. Pete Miral.

According to him, Family Day seeks to strengthen families. The parents of Eucon students as well as friends are invited "to share not only the fellowship of the believers but also the word of God."

Family Day usually has a big turnout of about 100 to 150 people every year, he said.

The day's most popular ac-

tivities are the games.

Dr. Wayne Johnson, the U.S. representative of the ministry in Eucon, said the games do not only involve volleyball, badminton, soccer, and football but also classic parlor games like the egg toss and three-legged race.

The most important benefit, according to Miral, is the fel-

The event happens, rain or shine. It rained for part of the event this year but, according to Johnson, "the weather has no bearing whatsoever."

The decision to hold Family Day either at the end of June or the beginning of July was also made in part to help celebrate the Fourth of July, Johnson said, to "bring some Americana to the islands." The food served reflected that, with burgers, hotdogs, chicken, fruits, and sunflower seeds.

The public is welcome to join next year's Family Day.





Families enjoy their lunch. CONTRIBUTED

Food is set up at Eucon's Family Day. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO





Dr. Wayne Johnson pours water into a water jug at Eucon's Family Day on Saturday, July 6, at the American Memorial Park.



Students and family help bring in supplies at Eucon's Family Day on Saturday, July 6, at the American Memorial Park.

Dr. Wayne Johnson helps set up the volleyball net for fun and



Wilmore Alamer grills burgers.





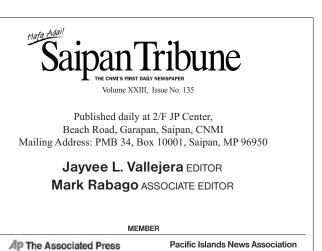
Eucon college students get food

**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO** 

People line up to get food. сонтявител рното

10 TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2013 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# **Opinion**



# After coup, can activists lead?

#### By TRUDY RUBIN

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer.



he Arab Spring has come full circle.

Two years ago, huge crowds in Tahrir Square called for the removal of a military-backed dictator and for democratic elections. Today, opposition crowds in the same square are cheering the military's ouster of an elected government. So much for the popular appeal of electoral democracy!

Opposition groups lay the blame for Egypt's ongoing economic and state collapse at the feet of ousted President Mohammed Morsi and his Muslim Brotherhood. The military has now put forward a road map for new elections, endorsed by the opposition.

But the failure, so far, of Egypt's democratic experiment has causes that go beyond the mistakes of Morsi. Unless the opposition acts on these causes, and quickly, there will soon be new protests by disaffected Egyptians in Tahrir Square.

Let's look first at Morsi's errors. He never recognized that his narrow margin of victory made it essential for him to run an inclusive government. He won only a quarter of the votes in the first round of presidential elections, and only 50.7 percent in the final round. That slim victory had two causes: First—and this is crucial—the opposition couldn't unite on a candidate in the first round, so its three different candidates split 75 percent of the ballots. Second, many non-Islamists voted for Morsi in the final round rather than cast a ballot for the military's preferred candidate, Ahmed Shafiq.

Instead of recognizing the sharp division within the country—between Islamists and non-Islamists—Morsi acted as if he were entitled to ignore the wishes of the other half of the country. No doubt, the secretive and long-repressed Muslim Brotherhood movement saw its victory as ordained by God.

But, in its eagerness to do God's will, the Brotherhood grabbed too fast at power, trying to gain control over every institution. It ran roughshod over Christian concerns about attacks by Islamists. It was so tone-deaf that it appointed as governor in Luxor a member of a former terrorist group-turned-political party that had once killed 60 tourists in that city.

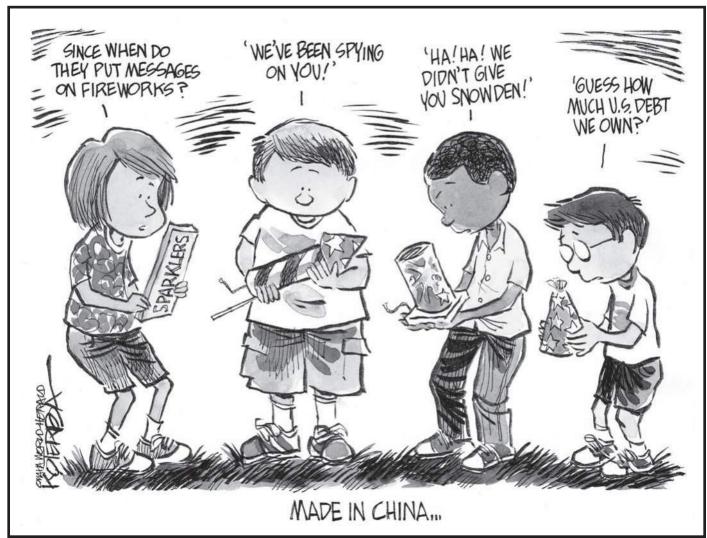
Non-Islamists felt a whiff of a new authoritarianism. The government's overeager effort to Islamicize society led to push-back; an inability to reform the economy, or provide security or jobs, led to widespread working-class anger. Newly empowered, thousands of frustrated Egyptians again headed for Tahrir Square.

But let's look at the opposition, which also bears a large share of blame for Egypt's troubles. The youth leaders who organized both Tahrir Square revolts have proven their talent at rallying millions. But they have been unable, or unwilling, to create a coherent political movement out of an opposition that includes liberals, leftists, former regime supporters, and some moderate and Salafi Islamist groups.

These disparate groups had little in common other than their opposition to Morsi. They undercut efforts by the Morsi government to reform the collapsing economy, while proposing no workable plan of their own.

Had the opposition united behind one candidate or political program, it might have defeated Morsi in presidential elections; it also might have bested Brotherhood candidates in parliamentary elec-

See COUP on Next Page



## Shangri-la

ur last notable stop before Chengdu in Sichuan was a city we visited shortly after the Tiananmen incident in 1989. Xi'an was just then getting the attention it deserved, with the unexcavated Qin Dynasty burial grounds still in covered mounds in the field, and the canopied excavated one filled with gawkers from all over the world, its terracotta soldiers had yet to embark on their now familiar exhibition circuit around the world; it is now a 21st century bustling metro. Misty eyed to view its unfamiliar skyline, we were clear we were not going to see it again.

Then we woke up in Shangri-la.

OK, there is a place renamed Shangri-la (*Xianggelila*) in Yunnan bordering Sichuan and Xizang (Tibet) on the foothills of the Himalayas, not too far from the famed old imperial city of Lijiang, now a favorite of the sandal-wearing crowd, heading upland to Lhasa of the Potala Palace. It was renamed after James Hinton's *The Lost Horizon* popularized the term Shangri-la as a geographical term rather than a five-star hotel.

But the Shangri-la of our awakening came from the incredible greenery of hills and mountain ranges, gorges and rivers, and the network of water management systems in place that met our eyes. Anything that would be washed down was held by a retaining wall, anything that flows was diked, and any force from drizzle to storm was dammed to abate possible damage. We saw these because the morning mist in our awareness came with the cleansing rain, and the numerous rivers we crossed were swollen and churning with mud-dirty waters to wash out debris and leave a nutrient-rich silt on their basins.

Blooming peach blossoms and jasmine flowers lined the rails, as unfamiliar fir-like trees towered along the terraced rice paddies. The terrain was definitely mountainous when we woke up to the fog in Guangyuan (those close to an atlas can locate Xi'an in Shaanxi westward to Baojie close to Ganzu, heading south to Sichuan along the Min River) but unlike our passage through Dong Bei and Hebei, the mist was genuinely humid air rather than smog.

Si Chuanlu from which the name Sichuan comes from is an abbreviation, meaning "four circuits of rivers," which is itself an abbreviation from Chuanxia Silu, "four circuits of rivers and gorges," an administrative categorization long before the Qin unified a China from warring states. It is an ancient territory settled as early as the Shang and Zhou dynasties of 15th century BCE. In fact, its capital Chengdu was an imperial center and later, the southern terminal of the Silk Road, as Xi'an was for northern route.

But you are not reading for history lessons, right? The question of relevance is always a contextual query we keep in mind when we write this reflection. What has an ex-Saipan resident now living in Shenyang have anything to say about Sichuan that would be of any local interest, let alone significance, to folks on Saipan?

#### By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.



The terrain is our answer, the living earth, peripherally its geography, existentially its spirit. We are not talking of a Mt. Tapochao level, nor of the stream or pond by Talofofo when it rains we call a "river." No, we are talking of towering mountains, some with white gleaming tops of granite, but mostly the Sichuan plateau with an average altitude of 3,000 meters above sea level, and the Sichuan basin. Chengdu at the lower western end of the basin is tropical green. The numerous tributaries like the Min and Jin comes down Chengdu toward the Yangtze River (aka Chiang Jiang) that meanders through Chongqing, down the Three Gorges Dam to Wuhan, and finally out into the China Sea north of Shanghai.

We are talking filial relationship to nature in a most fundamental way—the affinity to landscape and all creatures in it, as a family is tied to a common umbilical cord, and intertwined with one's sense of beauty, eternity, and destiny.

But we will shy away from feigning ontology here. Still, upon seeing banana and bamboo groves, women carrying woven wicker baskets strapped on their back like Kalinga-Apayao folks in my childhood in northern Luzon, and lychee trees draped with fruit, I realized I was in heaven. Not surprisingly, Sichuan is characterized as "heaven on earth" in its promotional literature.

A qualifier: For those of us trained in the time-conscious mindset of Europe where the Gregorian calendar is anchored at the fulcrum of *Anno Domini*, we are creatures of history, enamored in our footprints in time, rather than our scents and presence in geography. We are creatures of social memory, of before-now-and-after, in ways appropriated by *Las Islas Filipinas* and *Las Islas Marianas*, rather than glittering as a gem in the east-west-north-south-and-center of the *feng shui* and *taichi*, which I discovered in myself as genetically resident at its core.

Put bluntly, can the Northern Marianas be seen and treated like Shangri-la? Do Chamolinians and Pinoys, along with the many from around the world who came to roost at its beachheads, have the capacity to treat space as family, rather than as an inventory of commercial asset simply to be explored, exploited, and used?

I know that deep in the Asian-Pacific psyche is a rootedness in space. Shangri-la is at once in the mind as well as on the ground. Time to let it show!

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## Proteksion Haligen Ekonomia

#### By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



'ai hagacha hit man-loka' lañgat gi halom taduñg tasin dibi, kase maulegña tafan naguñg gi mas hihot na kanton tasi pot para ta nañga ya u katman ñaihon i chubasku.

Mientras tantos, mauleg lokue' tafan adiñgan kau ti u rompe yan pua i galaide'ta 'an ta kontinua karerata gi halom mattiempu.

Mauleg tafan deskansa ya ta apprubecha umestudiaye kau i planuta areglau, bintaha yan benefisiosu para todus. Hana'e hit kampu para ta ta'lun umaregla halom layag-ta mas fitme yan antau na areglu para maseha haf' tafagchae' dispues.

Ta sufa' i mattiñgan 'nai mahuchum i industrian magagu ni tinatitiye ni hinanau mas man-dañkulu siha na bisnes ginen Japon. Mas ha fogse huyung fondu gi tanu'. Mas ke \$7 biyon pesus na salape ha batsala 'nai man-huyuñg guine.

I industrian turista i uttimu halige tumatachu ni sumustetene ekonomia-ta pa'gu. Presisu na ta atan haf' mauleg para tachogue pot no u basnag. Estague' na industria i uttimu ni gumugu'ot linala' natibu guine.

#### **Tinituhon komunida**

I para tachogue pot sinistenen industrian turista gaige giya hita mismu. Debi hita finenina ta asegura na metgot na kinimite guaha gi korasonta para ta adelanta este na industria.

Taya' siña umasegura na gasgas i tano'ta solu hita mismu. Tutuon deste oriyan guma sige huyuñg gi kanton chalan. Na'gasgas todu lugat publiku tat kumu kanton unai dispues de un' usa.

Taya siña muna safu oriyata solu hita mismu. Yangin un' lie' na guaha ti kombene na bisita gi lugat siha ni sessu mafatoigue ni bisitata, ensegidas fan agañg ayudon polisia.

Taya' lokue' siña fumatta i likidu na kutturata yan tradision tano'ta solu hita mismu. Maila' ta fatta respetu yan kottesia gi hilu' fresku na fasu para todus bisita-ta.

I palabras ginen pachot bisita-ta ('an ha bira siha tatte) mas fitme na sineyu' gi otru atuñgo' niha na iya Marianas i mas mauleg na lugat para bakasion familia. Poresu na dibi kada unu u asegura na gasgas, safu yan man-mauleg i natibu na sensian tautau.

#### Ta abiba gatbon tano'ta

'An mattuyu' Hawaii yan New Caledonia, unu ensegidas anog gi

#### COUP

From Page 10

tions that Morsi had promised for this fall.

Instead, if new parliamentary elections were held tomorrow and the military allowed Islamist candidates to run, they might win again, because only they are politically organized. The splintered opposition has perfected the art of street politics, but hasn't shown it can govern.

Nor is there any sign that the opposition contains leaders who could unite the country or fix its economy. The most popular opposition political figure, Hamdeen Sabahi, is an unreformed Nasserite socialist with economic ideas more appropriate to the 1960s. When I interviewed him in 2011, his rhetoric was much more anti-Western, anti-capitalist, and anti-Israeli than the Brotherhood's.

As for the Nobel-winner and technocrat, Mohammed ElBaradei, who has been negotiating with the military, he is popular in the West but has little purchase on the Egyptian street.

Now that Morsi is gone, opposition groups can no longer hide behind anti-Islamism. They will have to up their game and prove that they have leaders with the ability to govern.

Those leaders will have to reach out to include Islamists in the political system, or risk bloody violence if they are excluded. Polls show that the non-Islamist opposition and Islamist parties each command around 30 percent of the electorate (while 40 percent are fed up with both sides).

And opposition activists will have to move beyond the politics of Tahrir Square and street protests, which won't save Egypt from collapsing. Otherwise, demonstrators may be soon be demanding that they, too, leave the political scene.

karerahu i gasgas dos lugat deste plasan batkon aire papa' esta'i kantun tasi.

Bula tinanom sombra petmanente ni muna' nunuhuñg katkuet patte gi kanton chalan yan tasi. Man-listu tautau niha ayudu para maseha haye na bisita ginen hiyuñg.

Tatnai chathinassuyu' na bai' ma-estane 'sino mana' lamen. Gasgas, safu yan gatbu i lugat ni sumen betde tinanom yan flores siha. Chetton este na litratu gi hinasoghu.

Tana' fan daña hinassota gi mismu etsisiu pot para tana' gasgas, safu yan motmut felisitasion ginen hita para todu bisita-ta. Estague' primet pasu 'nai siña ta aregla tano'ta gi proteksion industrian turista. Estague' 'nai ta fafagte koble para i kahan iya Marianas.

Mas dinanche yangin todu mañaina matutuhon este na finana'gue ginen halom guma. Umachahlau ni man-maestra yan maestro ya umakontinua finana'guen ginasgas yan responsablidat sudadanu. Kumu ta chogue este, mas gatbo i tano'ta siha.

#### **Bonita Iya Marianas**

Gi katkuet isla, ti un' lache ni ginatbon ennau na lugat. Ma'lag i mapagahes, paire i tasi, bonito inaiña yan man-mauleg sensian i tautau siha.

Siña mas ta abiba gatbon tano'ta kumu ta prekura muna' gasgas,

safu yan na'magof i likidu na kustumbren tautau isla. Respetu yan ma'lag na atileg fasu ti tulaikayon.

Fiesta: Maila' ta baba gupot señgsoñg-ta siha ya ta kombida bisita-ta ni gumagasta salape' niha guine. Deste ginen kattan San Roque esta St. Jude yan Santa Soldedad na fiesta, propiu i para ta kombida turista para u daña'e tautau-ta gi selebrasion patron niha.

I dinaña lancheru yan peskadot (Agricultural Fair) mauleg lokue' na selebrasion 'nai siña ta ekstende kumombida bisita-ta siha. Kontodu Tinian yan Luta libianu hana' fan patte bisita gi dinaña selebrasion fiesta.

Gigon ta danche chochugueña este na fina' kombite gi bisita-ta siha, mas machalapon finu' niha 'an ha bira siha tatte gi tanu' niha. Metgotña este na koyentura ke todu gaston ma-abiban (promotions) iya Marianas kumu lugat bakasion familia.

Seguruyu' na megai besis na in'hiñgog pot Honolulu, Tahiti, Noumea, yan otru man-adelantau na lugat para bisitan ginen hiyuñg. Chetton yan ya monana gi pachot i tautau este siha na lugat sa' gasgas, safu yan motmut felisitasion natibu diariu.

Libianu este ta tatiye. Presisu na tana'e animu sa' siha lokue' duru man-mama' i che'chu' para u kombida halom bisita siha ginen i oriya. Sumen na'banidosu 'an ta huñgog na i lugat-ta mas inayeg bisita ke otru lugat siha gi halom Pasifiku yan Asia.

Poresu na mauleg tafan daña' ya guaddia i uttimu industria ni numana'e kahan iya Marianas ni fondu para u siña sumetbe i tautauta siha deste edukasion, hinemlu' yan safu na komunida.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Enhancing the islands' roadways

Stop the squabbling between the Mayor's Office and the Marianas Visitors Authority against the Department of Public Works' capping of traffic median with concrete. This has to stop now and concentrate on the improvement of Beach Road from the Microl intersection to the Chalan Piao intersection. This stretch of road is already 30 years old and need to be reconstructed as it has already reached beyond repair. Some areas have cracks, the edges of bike paths or shoulders have water ponds when it rains, stripping is fading and raised pavement markers are not visible, which is causing motorist to lose their visibility especially at night—as a result of losing traffic safety for both local residents and tourists.

The capping of traffic medians is for channeling the traffic, but will also attract passersby to cross the islands anytime as it is convenient to walk, which will cause traffic hazards. If it is planted, no one will attempt to pass through as it will serve as a barricade or

Any plan to do on the roadway, the Department of Public Works should announce on the newspaper so the people have a chance to comment—not only the Mayor's Office and MVA but also certain groups or individuals. This will also give precaution to motorists and pedestrians. Any protest should be directed to DPW. Those who are against the capping of traffic medians and want flowers and shrubs in them should give assurance of maintaining it. If no one is willing to do the maintenance, then DPW can do whatever they want as the agency is assigned to maintain roadways.

These improvements should include a continuous minimum width of center lane from Microl intersection to Chalan Piao as much as possible, being business areas. This center lane will mean the removal of old trees that could fall anytime and serve as traffic Chalan Lau-Lau, Saipan

hazards for both motorists and people passing by; to continue the pathway from San Jose village to the vicinity of Townhouse; improving the drainage system by constructing a series of catch basin connected by underground PVC pipelines along the shoulder, with additional culverts across the roads.

If the above construction cannot be done, the least we can do is to overlay the existing road with a minimum of one-inch thick compacted anti-skid asphalt with reflectorized stripping and raised pavement markers.

Another important project that needs to be done is to re-strip faded edge-line crosswalks, arrows, and replace lost raised pavement markers islandwide.

Any of the above, if it can be done, will surely increase the arrival of tourists because if I am one of the tourists and go back home, I will not be ashamed to convince my relatives and friends to visit the Mariana Islands, especially Saipan. If any of these improvements will not happen, I will have to tell them not to come to Saipan and just visit other places.

If stripping and replacing removed pavement markers islandwide cannot be funded by Federal Highway Administration, the Marianas Visitors Authority can ask the Hotel Association, business establishments, and individuals to contribute any amount. The Hotel Association will surely increase their hotel occupancy and businesses with their sales. With the increase in revenue, the government can continue to pay its obligations, especially for prolonging the life of the Retirement Fund.

Meliton "Jun" Ramos

## Constitutional and unconstitutional

Because of the law that our leaders made, some people claim that it very lucky the government never filed for bankruptcy; otherwise, is constitutional to live on the wealth of others. But by God's teaching it is a sin to live on the wealth of others.

It is said that because the government is not paying the employer's contribution, the Retirement Fund's lifespan is shortening. True, but also because of those who are receiving benefits that is not theirs.

Yes, it is just that we support those who are disabled and those who are incapable of working due to circumstances beyond their control. It is, however, unjust to support those who are able and are financially capable of making a living.

To those who think it is constitutional for retirees and dependents who do not have any more pension who are still receiving benefits that have not been paid for, that is unconstitutional for all. I believe to be fair, if the government is to allow those high-income retirees and dependents to receive such benefits, then it won't be fair for those families who are on food stamps not to get any share because they are the ones who are financially unable.

The government giving 75 percent to the retirees is far better than those families who are on food stamps and are not working. We're you too will be on food stamp.

The government should survey who are able and disabled and prioritize those who are disabled, old, financially unable to make a living, and low-income dependents.

To allow rich persons to live on the wealth of the poor is gravely unconstitutional and it is a sin by the teachings of Christ.

That law that allow adopted dependents to still receive benefits and allow retirees to get benefits until the day they die is unconstitutional and should be amended.

This is just my opinion and I hope you understand what I'm trying to say. Accept the fact that the government does not have money to give for free. For those retirees who are complaining, please excuse me for telling you this, a lot of active members whose money you are asking to take have lost their houses, their vehicles, and some are on food stamp. So, please have pity for active members because there are some who are also disabled.

#### **Winnie Atalig**

San Jose, Tinian

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Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

## The Weather

#### 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian



Mostly sunny with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

.88° **▼77**°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Fast winds 10 to 15 mph

88° **▼77**°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

**▲88° ▼77°** 

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

**▲** 88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image

Partly cloudy with

isolated showers.

**▲88° ▼77°** 

#### **Micronesia**

Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 88 <b>▼</b> 80
Palau	Showers	<b>▲</b> 85 ▼75
Yap	Showers	<b>▲</b> 90 <b>▼</b> 76
Chuuk	Showers	<b>▲</b> 87 <b>▼</b> 79
Pohnpei	Showers	<b>▲</b> 87 <b>▼</b> 75
Kosrae	Showers	<b>▲</b> 87 <b>▼</b> 75
Majuro	Showers	<b>▲</b> 85 ▼80

#### **Around The Globe**

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	<b>▲</b> 59	▼50
Beijing	Thunderstorms	<b>▲</b> 79	▼81
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 88	▼81
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 85	<b>▼</b> 74
London	Sunny	<b>▲</b> 76	₹59
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 87	<b>▼</b> 67
Manila	Thundershowers	91	₹79
Melbourne	Sunny	<b>▲</b> 59	<b>▼</b> 36
Miami	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 89	₹77
New York	Thundershowers	s <b>≜</b> 87	<b>▼</b> 72
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲91	₹76
Paris	Mostly Sunny	<b>≜</b> 82	<b>▼</b> 63
Pusan	Windy	▲80	₹72
Rome	Mostly Sunny	<b>≜</b> 83	<b>▼</b> 70
Salem	Sunny	<b>▲</b> 86	▼57
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 69	<b>▼</b> 54
Seoul	Thundershowers	84	₹75
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 92	<b>▼</b> 77

#### Saipan H 3:33 AM 8:20 AM 3:42 PM 10:34 PM

Washington, DC Thundershowers ▲88 ▼75

#### PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, JULY 8, 2013

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Soulik (07W) is centered about 285 miles north of Saipan at 19N145E. It is moving west at 15 mph with maximum sustained winds of 45 mph. Numerous showers and scattered thunderstorms are occurring near the center over much of the northern CNMI between 15N and 20N from 142E to 147E. Showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring between 20N and 23N from 142E to to 150E. For more information on Soulik, see the public advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WWMY80 PGUM and the warnings issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW. Trade-wind convergence is causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near the equator between 2N and 4N from 138E to 143E. A surface trough curves northward from southwest of Chuuk at EQ148E to 8N152E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with this trough are found south of Chuuk between the equator and 7N from 146E to 154E. A trade-wind disturbance is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over the Marshall Islands along and up to 600 miles northeast of a line from 10N158E to EQ173E. A surface trough curves east-northeastward from north of Wake Island at 24N169E to 25N175E. This trough and an upper low centered at 25N174E are causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between 23N and 25N from 171E to 175E

	Ti	des		Su	nrise/Suns	et
la	arbor			Today	5:53 AM	6:52 PM
	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet	Wednesday	5:53 AM	6:52 PM
	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	Thursday	5:53 AM	6:52 PM
	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet	Friday	5:54 AM	6:52 PM
1	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	Saturday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM

Mooi	nrise/Moo	nset
Today	6:26 AM	7:26 PM
Wednesday	7:15 AM	8:07 PM
Thursday	8:04 AM	8:47 PM
Friday	8:53 AM	9:27 PM
Saturday	9:42 AM	10:06 PM

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- ing of awards, team-building exercises, meetings are other activities by members of the business community. ■ SAMU'T SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togeth-
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ers, volunteer work, etc.

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Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and

private companies

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos must have been taken in the last two months. ■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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#### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 23, 2013

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SAIPAN-GUA	м (сим			CHAM (CHA	IV-CVIDVI	ч	
UA5070		5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7	GUAM (GUM UA 5069		3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062		5:40am	1, 3, 5	UA5071		3.33aiii 8:05am	Daily
UA5068		9:25am	Daily	UA5073		10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5074		12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5075		2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076		4:00pm	Daily	UA5077		6:25pm	Daily
UA5078		7:45pm	Daily	UA5079		9:10pm	Daily
UA5072		10:35pm	Daily				,
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				UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
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DL287		8:45am	Daily	DL298		3:05pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
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<b>5AIPAN-BU3</b> 0Z608		6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7	0Z607		<b>N</b> 1:55am+1	3. 4. 6. 7
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07606		6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z605		1:10am+1	7
0Z604		6:55pm	Daily	0Z605		1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
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SAIPAN-SHA	NGHAI (	PVG)		SHANGHAI	(PVG)-SA	IPAN	
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	1, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEI	-			BEIJING (P			
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5	MU763	1:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7
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02000/101	L.JUaiii	11.030111	via ICN	DL172/288	8-00am	12·50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM	UA190/5077	10:55am		3, 6 via GUM
UA5062/191		9:55am	3 via GUM	UA190/5079	10:55am	,	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173		10:05pm	Daily via NRT	0Z702/605		1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	,	1, 3, 5, 6, 7	0Z702/605		1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
		•	via GUM		,		via ICN
US5074/PR111	11:20am	4:35pm	1, 5, 7	UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
			via GUM				via GUM
UA5076/183		8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM	0Z704/603		2:20pm	Daily via ICN
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
			via GUM				
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN				
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<b>SAIPAN-HON</b> 0Z606/721		( <b>IING</b> ) 11:50am	1 via ICN	HONG KONG 0Z746/603		2:20pm	Daily via ICN
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0Z604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN	UA180/5071		8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM
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LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

#### FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA Fr	equency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan			·	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota			, ,	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian	ζ. <b>4</b> Γ	<b>/.</b> ΓΓ	Dailu	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45 7:30	6:55 7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103 FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2013 13

## **Business**

HANNAH DREIER

AS VEGAS (AP)—Most people still think the U.S. gambling industry is anchored in Las Vegas, with its booming Strip and 24/7 action, a place where years of alluring marketing campaigns have helped scrub away the taint of past corruption.

Yet in just a decade, the center of gambling has migrated to the other side of the world, settling in a tiny Chinese territory an hour's ferry ride from Hong Kong. The gambling mecca of Macau now handles more wagers than all U.S.-based commercial casinos put together, and many of those bets end up swelling the balance sheets of U.S. corporations.

But as U.S. gambling companies have remade Macau, Macau has also remade them.

Chasing riches, these companies have been hit with allegations of improper conduct, prompting investigations and serious questions about how closely U.S. authorities are watching the corporations' overseas dealings, and what, if any, real repercussions they could face. Could these corruption claims revive the specter of gambling's bad old days, when Sin City casinos kept mobsters flush?

"There are some countries where you either have to pay to play and break the law, or you have to not do business there," Indiana-based casino consultant Steve Norton said. "I think the jury's still out on Macau."

A few hours' flight from half the world's population, Macau is the only place in China where gambling is legal. Each month, 2.5 million tourists flood the glitzy boomtown half the size of Manhattan to try their luck in neon-drenched casinos. Most of them are nouveau-riche Chinese who sip tea and chain-smoke as they play at baccarat.

The former Portuguese colony has long been known for its gambling but used to offer a seedier experience, with small-time gambling dens crowding up against textile factories and gangs, prostitutes and money-launderers operating openly in the cobblestone streets. That was the scene in 1999 when China assumed sovereignty of Macau and opened it to outside gambling operators.

"It was a swamp," said Sheldon Adelson, CEO of Las Vegas Sands, as he looked back on his early venture in an obscure city where Chinese officials envisioned conventions and resorts. "Everybody thought that I was crazy."

Nevertheless, he and the two American competitors that tried their luck there succeeded spectacularly. Adelson's first casino opening there caused a stampede that ripped

# Tiny Chinese enclave remakes gambling world, Las Vegas



In this photo taken on Thursday, May 23, 2013, an attendant demonstrates the game of baccarat on a baccarat gaming table during the Global Gaming Expo Asia in Macau.

doors off their hinges. Now operating four booming casinos in Macau, he described Sands as "an Asian company" with a presence in America. He makes far more in China, a culture in which notions of luck and fate play integral roles, than in Las Vegas.

"This industry is supplydriven, like the movie 'Field of Dreams:' Build it and they will come." he said. "I believe that."

If Adelson's words and jacko'-lantern smile suggest all is right in the globalized casino world, consider where he made these statements - on the witness stand in a Vegas courtroom this spring, defending his company against one of his former Macau consultants.

A jury in May found against Adelson, awarding the consultant \$70 million for helping Sands secure a lucrative gambling license in Macau. Sands immediately appealed.

But the lawsuit may be the least of Adelson's worries. His firm is also accused of making improper payments to a Macau lawmaker and collaborating with the Chinese mafia. The U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission are investigating. The company says it's done nothing wrong.

It's not just Sands facing legal and regulatory troubles connected with Macau. Two of the other three major U.S. gambling enterprises are, too: Wynn

Resorts Ltd. and MGM Resorts International. Both Sands and Wynn are facing related lawsuits from shareholders who claim Macau mismanagement has damaged the companies.

■ Wynn is being investigated by the Justice Department and the SEC over a \$135 million donation to the University of Macau Development Foundation in 2011. Wynn co-founder Kazuo Okada characterized the donation as "suspicious" in a 2012 letter to the SEC. He noted that the Development Foundation's lead trustee is also a member of the Macau government, and said that the donation coincided with Wynn's request for land to develop a third casino.

"I am at a complete loss as to the business justification for the donation, other than that it was an attempt to curry favor with those that have ultimate authority for issuing gaming licenses," said Okada, who is now under Department of Justice investigation himself for possible bribery in the Philippines, and has fallen out with his former Wynn colleagues. Okada denies wrongdoing.

If his claim is true, the Wynn payment could violate the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, or FCPA—a law that bars U.S. companies from paying off officials to win business overseas. Wynn says it acted properly and had no need to buy-off authorities. Nevada regulators, in a separate inves-

tigation, found no wrongdoing.

■ MGM got into trouble with New Jersey regulators when the company opened a Macau casino with Pansy Ho, the daughter of a gambling kingpin allegedly linked to Chinese gangs. The state found the partnership "unsuitable" in a 2010 report, and forced MGM to sell its stake in an Atlantic City casino. MGM denied that there was anything inappropriate about the relationship, began the process of selling its stake, and did not cut ties with Macau.

Two years later, MGM CEO Jim Murren stands by that choice. "The Macau market is now larger than the entire U.S. gaming market. Unfortunately for Atlantic City, it's gone the other way. It's smaller now than when we entered it. The fortunes of the two couldn't be more different," he said.

Last winter, New Jersey agreed to consider MGM's application for a renewed license.

■ The Sands inquiries stem from a pending wrongful termination case brought by former Sands executive Steve Jacobs in 2010. Jacobs claims that Sands' China subsidiary did business with known gangsters, tacitly condoned prostitution and made inappropriate payments to an attorney who was also a Macau lawmaker. Jacobs claims Sands paid the lawmaker to help settle various regulatory issues in Sands' favor.

Sands has denied all claims,

but recently said in an SEC filing that an internal audit had found possible breaches of a section of the FCPA that requires public companies to file proper financial statements and maintain a system of internal controls. In April, Sands' auditor declined to stand for re-election.

Justice Department spokesman Michael Passman declined to comment on the probe. Sands says it is cooperating with federal prosecutors. Spokesman Ron Reese said the company's dealings in Macau attract more scrutiny because it's the world's largest gambling market, but Sands is diligent wherever it operates.

Sands opened for business in Macau in 2004, at the beginning of a massive boom in China's economy that has lifted incomes for hundreds of millions of people, allowing them to afford upscale pleasures like gambling in casinos. Today, the former backwater is in the midst of one of the greatest gambling booms the world has ever known. To rival the money it takes in, Las Vegas would have to attract six times more gamblers each year than it does now- essentially every adult in America. Wynn Resorts now makes nearly three-quarters of its revenue in Macau. Sands, which owns the Venetian and Palazzo, earns two-thirds of its revenue there.

But like early Las Vegas, Macau has a long history of ties to

crime syndicates - in this case secretive brotherhoods called triads that first formed on the mainland more than a century ago. Machine-gun shootouts, bombings and even assassinations of government officials were commonplace during magnate Stanley Ho's four-decade monopoly of gambling. (He is Patsy Ho's father.) In the late 1990s, a police official tried to reassure visitors by remarking that Macau had "professional killers who don't miss their targets."

The history and regulations governing the enclave continue to make it tricky for modern casinos to avoid gangs, illegal money transfers and at least the appearance of bribery.

Businesses operating there can expect allegations against them, true or not, said Bill Weidner, who was president of Sands until 2009.

He added: "Macau is their country, not ours, and it's their system not ours, and it operates differently than ours. It's not better or worse, just different."

One contributing factor is China's capital controls, which restrict the amount of money that citizens take out of the country, including to Macau, which like Hong Kong, is a semi-autonomous region with its own financial system. Another is the lack of reliable credit risk information in China, which makes it hard for casinos to figure out whom they should lend to.

So-called junket agents provide an easy fix. They use their networks on the mainland to identify wealthy would-be VIP gamblers, whisk them to Macau's tables, lend them money, then settle up when they get home.

Junket operators often assume management of a casino's private VIP room. Casinos provide the facilities, dealers and chips in return for a cut of the profits. Baccarat played in VIP rooms accounts for two-thirds of Macau's \$38 billion in annual gambling revenue.

While many of the more than 200 junket operators active in Macau are law-abiding, some have documented ties to organized crime. Operating off the books, junkets pay out winnings in Hong Kong dollars, widely accepted in Macau, which players can then move to another location. As a result, Macau is seen as a conduit for money flowing out of China, with wealthy individuals and corrupt officials suspected of transferring funds abroad.

The enclave has seen a spate of killings and kidnappings associated with debt collection, including one grisly case last year in which two men were stabbed to death in their four-star hotel room, discovered by a friend who had come to lend them the money they needed.

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## Nation

## Official probes if rescuers ran over crash victim

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Pilots of Asiana Flight 214 were flying too slowly as they approached San Francisco airport, triggering a cockpit warning that the jetliner could stall, and they tried to abort the landing but crashed barely a second later, the head of the National Transportation Safety Board said Sunday.

While federal investigators began piecing together what led to the crash, San Mateo County Coroner Robert Foucrault disclosed that he was looking into the possibility that one of the two teenage passengers who died Saturday actually survived the crash but was run over by a rescue vehicle rushing to aid victims as the plane burst into flames. Remarkably, 305 of 307 passengers survived the crash and more than a third didn't even require hospitalization. Only a small number were critically injured.

Accident investigators are trying to determine whether pilot error, mechanical problems or something else was to blame for the crash. At a news conference, NTSB chief Deborah Hersman disclosed the Boeing 777 was traveling at speeds well below the target landing speed of 137 knots per hour, or 157 mph.

"We're not talking about a few knots," she said.

Hersman described the frantic final seconds of the flight as the pilots struggled to avoid crashing.

Seven seconds before the crash, pilots recognized the need to increase speed, she said, basing her comments on an evaluation of the cockpit voice and flight data recorders that contain hundreds of different types of information on what happened to the plane. Three seconds later, the aircraft's stick shaker—a piece of safety equipment that warns pilots of an impending stall—went off. The normal response to a stall warning is to boost speed and Hersman said the throttles were fired and the engines appeared to respond normally.

At 1.5 seconds before impact, there was a call from the crew to abort the landing.

The details confirmed what survivors and other witnesses said they saw: an aircraft that seemed to be flying too slowly just before its tail apparently clipped a seawall at the end of the runway and the nose slammed down.

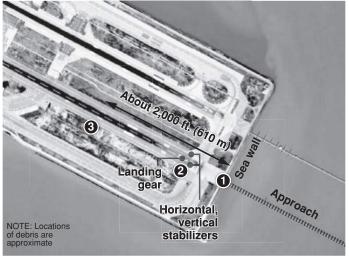


Parents of Wang Linjia, center, are comforted by parents of some other students who were on the Asiana Airlines Flight 214 that crashed at San Francisco International Airport, at Jiangshan Middle School in Jiangshan city, in eastern China's Zhejiang province, Sunday July 7, 2013.

#### Too low, too fast

A closer look at how Asiana Airlines flight 214 crashed during landing at the San Francisco International Airport.





Witness accounts suggest plane came in too low, caught sea wall 2 Plane breaks apart, leaving path of debris 3 Plane comes to a stop; firefighters douse flames

#### Full flight

- 291 passengers, 16 crew members
- More than 180 injured
- Two killed, reportedly found outside the plane

# Boeing 777 • Emergency exits 209 ft. (63.7 m)

Source: ESRI, Aerogrid, AEX, GeoEye, Getmapping, i-cubed, IGN, IGP, the GIS User Community, USDA, USGS, New York Times, AP Graphic: Melina Yingling, Tim Goheen © 2013 M

## Pilots faced challenges landing in San Francisco

WASHINGTON (AP)—San Francisco International Airport, with its tightly spaced runways that extend right up to the water, requires more skill for landing than most of the nation's big airports, experienced airline pilots say. That challenge was further complicated by the shutdown of a ground-based instrument landing system and the movement of runway thresholds prior to the crash Saturday of a Korean airliner.

The instrument landing system, or ILS, uses radio signals to create a three-dimensional "glide slope" for planes to follow so they aren't too high, too low or too far to the right or left. The ILS for runway 28 left, where the plane crashed, had been shut down since June and the beginning of the runway was moved 300 feet to the west to accommodate construction at the airport, according to pilots who use the airport.

National Transportation Safety Board Chairman Deborah Hersman said Sunday investigators will look at what role, if any, the absence of the ILS may have played in the accident.

Airline pilots with experience flying the Boeing 777 or flying into San Francisco told The Associated Press that the Federal Aviation Administration notified pilots in June that the ILS was turned off. Pilots were also warned that the beginning of runways 28 left and right had been moved.

A white line that previously designated the end of the runway was blacked out and a new line painted further west, said Rory Kay, a training captain for a major airline who landed a plane at San Francisco the day before the crash.

The change in the runway line might have added an element of confusion to the landing, he said.

All Boeing 777s, like most modern airliners, have cockpit computers that use GPS to create a glide slope for landing that is nearly as good as the ground-based ILS, said Bob Coffman, an American Airlines captain who formerly flew the 777.

Pilots normally try to land at the target speed, in this case 137 knots, plus an additional five more knots, said Bob Coffman, an American Airlines captain who has flown 777s. He said the briefing raises an important question: "Why was the plane going so slow?"

The plane's Pratt & Whitney engines were on idle, Hersman said. The normal procedure in the Boeing 777, a wide-body jet, would be to use the autopilot and the throttle to provide power to the engine all the way through to landing, Coffman said.

There was no indication in the discussions between the pilots and the air traffic controllers that there were problems with the aircraft.

Among the questions investigators are trying to answer was what, if any, role the deactivation of a ground-based landing guidance system due to airport construction played in the crash. Such systems help pilots land, especially at airports like San Francisco where fog can make landing challenging. The conditions Saturday were nearly perfect, with sunny skies and light winds.

The flight originated in Shanghai, China, stopped over in Seoul, South Korea, before making the nearly 11-hour trip to San Francisco. The South Korea-based airline said four South Korean pilots were on board, three of whom were described as "skilled."

Among the travelers were citizens of China, South Korean, the United States, Canada, India, Japan, Vietnam and France. There were at least 70 Chinese students and teachers heading to summer camps, according to Chinese authorities.

Fei Xiong, a Chinese passenger, was traveling to California so she could take her 8-year-old son to Disneyland. The pair was sitting in the back half of the plane. Xiong said her son sensed something was wrong.

"My son told me: The plane will fall down, it's too close to the sea," she said. "I told him: Baby, it's OK, we'll be fine."

When the plane hit the ground, oxygen masks dropped down, said Xu Da, a product manager at an Internet company in Hangzhou, China, who was sitting with his wife and teenage son near the back of the plane. When he stood up, he said he could see sparking—perhaps from exposed electrical wires.

#### **ACROSS THE NATION**

#### NTSB: 10 killed in Alaska plane crash

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—An air taxi crashed Sunday at an Alaska airport, killing all 10 people aboard, a National Transportation Safety Board investigator said. The accident happened around 11:20 a.m. and sent the fixed-wing aircraft up in flames, said Meagan Peters of Alaska State Troopers. The victims have not yet been identified. NTSB investigator Clint Johnson said the pilot and nine

passengers were killed in the crash at the airport late Sunday morning. Initial reports had the accident happening as the plane took off. NTSB identified the aircraft in a release Sunday as a de Havilland Otter Air Taxi, which the Aviation Safety Foundation says can seat up to 20 passengers.

#### **Teresa Heinz Kerry hospitalized in Boston**

**BOSTON** (AP)—Teresa Heinz Kerry, the wife of U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and heir to a ketchup company fortune, was

hospitalized in critical condition Sunday while on Massachusetts' Nantucket Island. Heinz Kerry was flown to Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston on Sunday night after doctors at Nantucket Cottage Hospital stabilized her, said Glen Johnson, a spokesman for Kerry. The secretary of state was with his 74-year-old wife as an ambulance first transported her to the island hospital, and also during her transfer to the Boston facility. A spokesman for the Nantucket hospital said Heinz Kerry arrived in critical condition, although doctors were able to stabilize her.

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## Asia

## The Philippines aims to nearly halve poverty by 2015

MANILA, Philippines (AP)— The Philippines' top economic official said Friday the government aims to sustain growth at a rate high enough to nearly halve poverty by 2015.

Nearly 28 percent of the country's 97 million people live below the poverty line and the government's aim is to reduce that to 16.6 percent within the next two years.

Planning Socioeconomic Secretary Arsenio Balisacan said the government is sticking to its forecast for economic growth of 6-7 percent this year despite the surprising 7.8 percent leap in GDP in the first quarter. He said forecasts need to be conservative because of uncertain economic outlooks for Europe, China and the U.S.

The Philippine economy has grown faster than 7 percent for three straight quarters. It is projected to grow between 6.5 percent and 7.5 percent next year and 7-8 percent in 2015. Forecasts for 2016 are being reviewed, but Balisacan said 7-8 percent growth is a "reasonable assumption."

Balisacan said the government would double down on its efforts to lift more Filipinos out of poverty in the remaining three years of President Benigno Aquino III's term. He said officials will focus on cre-



In this Tuesday July 2, 2013 photo, construction is in progress at a reclamation site on Manila Bay amidst buildings in the background.

ating quality jobs, addressing the backlog in housing, and will continue to run a program that gives cash directly to poor families as long as children stay in school and see a doctor.

Balisacan said infrastructure bottlenecks and the high cost of doing business that have

dressed, with infrastructure percent of gross domestic prod-

He cited a study by the Japan International Cooperation Agency that shows Manila's traffic gridlock causes economic losses of 2.4 billion pesos (\$56 million) a day.

He also said the economy is being diversified from high dependence on consumption and services to one with stronger manufacturing, exports, investments, tourism and more jobs.

Laws that hamper investment, including those governing inter-island shipping, land use and fiscal incentives to business may need to be reviewed to ensure they still make economic sense, he said.

Compared with Indonesia, which attracted nearly \$20 billion in foreign investment last year, the Philippines managed only \$2.8 billion, not far from \$2.2 billion for Myanmar, a pariah state until recently. Thailand wooed more than 22 million visitors last year, the Philippines received 4.3 million.

Balisacan also blamed low foreign investment on the country's past three decades of boom and bust development.

#### **ASIAN BRIEFS**

#### **Blasts at Buddhist sites** in east India injure 2

**PATNA**, **India** (AP)—A series of blasts hit three Buddhist sites in eastern India early Sunday, injuring at least two people and drawing condemnation from the prime minister. Senior police officer S.K. Bhardwaj said a gate at one of the two temples that was hit was badly damaged in Bodhgaya, a town 130 kilometers (80 miles) south of Patna, the capital of Bihar state. No other damage was reported to the Buddhist sites. Junior Home Minister R.P.N. Singh said that no one claimed responsibility for the explosions and that an investigation would be carried out to determine who was involved.

#### Asiana says pilot had little experience on 777s

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)— Asiana Airlines says the pilot in control of the Boeing 777 that crashed in San Francisco had little experience flying that type of plane and was landing one for the first time at that airport. Asiana spokeswoman Lee Hyomin said Monday that Lee Gang-guk was trying to get used to the 777 during Saturday's crash landing. She says the pilot had nearly 10,000 hours flying other planes but had only 43 hours on the 777. Accident investigators are trying to determine whether pilot error, mechanical problems or something else was to blame for the crash. The head of the National Transportation Safety Board said earlier that the pilots were flying too slowly as they approached the airport and tried to abort the landing but crashed barely a second later.

#### Thai taxi driver arrested for slaying American

BANGKOK (AP)—Thai police have arrested a taxi driver accused of killing an American expatriate in a fight over a taxi fare worth less than \$2. Police Lt. Col. Teerayut Maiplaeng says the 32-year-old taxi driver confessed that he stabbed Troy Lee Pilkington with a machete on Bangkok's Sukhumvit Road on Saturday. Teerayut said Monday that the 51-year-old Pilkington worked for American machinery company Caterpillar and had lived in Thailand for at least three years. The driver, Chidchai Utmacha, told investigators that Pilkington accused him of rigging the taxi's meter and then refused to pay the fare of 51 baht (\$1.60). He claimed the American threw coffee at him when he asked for the money.

stymied investment will be ad-

spending to be ramped up to 5 uct by 2016 from 2.5 percent

## Chinese plane crash victims were student leaders

**BEIJING** (AP)—The two Chinese teenagers who died in an Asiana Airlines plane crash in San Francisco were student leaders who excelled in their studies and in the arts-one was a calligrapher and the other a pianist.

Wang Linjia, 16, and Ye Mengyuan, 17, were students at Jiangshan Middle School in eastern China who were traveling on a summer camp program organized by the school to visit universities in California, state media reported Monday.

The group included 29 students and four teachers from four schools in the city of Jiangshan. They were to visit Silicon Valley, Stanford University and University of California's campuses in Los Angeles and Berkeley as part of an English-language program, according to the Youth Times, an official newspaper in Zhejiang province.

Wang was class representative for three years and teachers and schoolmates described her as excelling in physics and being good at calligraphy and drawing, according to the paper.

The newspaper said a reporter visited the girl's family at a hotel and that Wang's mother was sitting on a bed, crying silently while her father was sitting in a chair with a blank expression.

Wang's next-door neighbor, a woman surnamed Xia, described Wang as being quiet, courteous and diligent.

"She was very keen to learn, messages on their microblog

every time she came home she would be studying, very rarely did she go out and play," Xia was quoted as saying. She said Wang's father proudly displayed her calligraphy and art pieces on the walls of his office.

The other victim, Ye, also was a top student who excelled in literature and was talented with the piano, singing, and gymnastics. The Youth Times said Ye had recently won a national gymnastics competition and routinely received honors at the school's annual speech contests.

The two girls were classmates from four years ago and became close friends, the paper said.

The girls posted their last

accounts on Thursday and Friday. "Perhaps time can dilute the coffee in the cup, and can polish the outlines of memory," Wang said on Friday.

Her final message was simply the word "go."

Of the 291 passengers onboard, 141 were Chinese. At least 70 Chinese students and teachers were on the plane heading to summer camps, according to education authorities in China.

The flight slammed into the runway while landing at San Francisco International Airport on Saturday and caught fire, forcing many to escape by sliding down the emergency inflatable slides as flames tore through the plane. Officials said 182 people were taken to area hospitals.

## 5 Philippine soldiers, many rebels killed in clash

## MANILA, Philippines (AP)—

More than 100 breakaway Muslim guerrillas launched attacks against army troops in the southern Philippines, sparking clashes that killed five soldiers and scores of insurgents who wanted to undermine peace talks between the government and the largest Muslim rebel group in the country, the military said Sunday.

The daylong clashes involving the hard-line Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters erupted Saturday in the marshy outskirts of Datu Piang and Shariff Saydona Mustapha towns in

Maguindanao province and in a coastal village of nearby North Cotabato province. Army forces were firing artillery rounds against the rebels Sunday in a mountain encampment, said regional army spokesman Capt. Anthony Bulao.

Hundreds of villagers fled from Datu Piang, an impoverished rural town about 900 kilometers (560 miles) southeast of Manila, officials said. Recent attacks by the rebel faction have shattered months of relative calm in the south's volatile central heartland.

The Muslim guerrillas in-

volved in the fighting broke off from the largest Muslim rebel group in the country, the 11,000-strong Moro Islamic Liberation Front, two years ago. The rebel faction led by commander Ameril Umbra Kato has rejected the talks between the main rebel group and the government, saying the talks have gone nowhere, and vowed to continue fighting for a separate homeland for minority Muslims in the south of the predominantly Roman Catholic Philippines.

Despite the rebel infighting, the peace talks have progressed in recent years and were scheduled to resume Monday in Malaysia to try to iron out differences in a proposed revenuesharing accord that would be a pillar of an emerging Muslim autonomy deal.

"There have been reports that they wanted to commit atrocities to sabotage the talks," Bulao said of the breakaway guerrillas.

Suspected fighters of the rebel faction detonated a powerful bomb on a roadside as an army truck drove by in Datu Piang, killing an army lieutenant and two soldiers and setting off a running gunbattle. The attackers later withdrew and were being pursued by reinforcement troops, military officials said.

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## World

# 40 still missing in deadly Canada rail crash, fire

LAC-MEGANTIC, Quebec (AP)—About 40 people were still missing a day after a runaway train derailed in Ouebec, igniting explosions and fires that destroyed a busy downtown district and killed five people. Police said a higher death toll was inevitable, and authorities feared the number might soar once they're able to reach the hardest-hit areas. Worries remained over the status of two oil-filled train cars.

Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper compared the area to a war zone and said about 30 buildings were incinerated. Quebec provincial police Sgt. Benoît Richard said only a small part of the devastated area had been searched Sunday, more than a day since the accident, because firefighters were making sure all fires were out.

The train's 72 oil-filled tanker cars somehow came loose early Saturday morning, sped downhill nearly seven miles (11 kilometers) into the town, derailed and began exploding one by one. At least five exploded.

The eruptions sent residents of Lac-Megantic scrambling through the streets under the intense heat of towering fireballs and a red glow that illuminated the night sky. The district is a popular area packed with bars that often bustles on summer weekend nights. Police said the first explosion tore through the town shortly after 1 a.m. local time. Fire then spread to several homes.

Two tanker cars were burning Sunday morning, and authorities were still worried about them Sunday evening. Local Fire Chief Denis Lauzon said firefighters were staying 500 feet (150 meters) from the tankers, which were being doused with water and foam to keep them from overheating.

"This is an unbelievable disaster," said Harper, who toured the town Sunday. "This is an enormous area, 30 buildings just completely destroyed, for all intents and purposes incinerated. There isn't a family that is



The downtown core lays in ruins as fire fighters continue to water smoldering rubble Sunday, July 7, 2013 in Lac Megantic, Quebec.

not affected by this."

The growing number of trains carrying crude oil in Canada and the United States had raised concerns of a major derailment.

One death was confirmed Saturday. Police confirmed two people were found dead overnight and confirmed two more deaths Sunday afternoon. The charred remains were sent to Montreal for identification.

A coroner's spokeswoman said it may not be possible to recover some of the bodies because of the intensity of the blasts.

Locals were convinced the death toll was far higher than five. Anne-Julie Huot, 27, said

at least five friends and about 20 acquaintances remained unaccounted for. She said she was lucky to be working that night, otherwise she likely would have been at a popular bar that was leveled in the blast.

"I have a friend who was smoking outside the bar when it happened, and she barely got away, so we can guess what happened to the people inside," Huot said. "It's like a nightmare. It's the worst thing I can imagine."

About a third of the community of 6,000 was forced out of their homes. The town is about 155 miles (250 kilometers) east of Montreal and just west of the

Maine border.

Transportation Safety Board investigator Donald Ross said the black box of the locomotive has been recovered, but officials haven't been able to access much of the site.

Edward Burkhardt, the president and CEO of Rail World Inc., the parent company of Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway, said the train had been parked uphill of Lac-Megantic because the engineer had finished his run. The tanker cars somehow came loose.

'We've had a very good safety record for these 10 years." Burkhardt said. "Well, I think

we've blown it here."

Joe McGonigle, Montreal, Maine & Atlantic's vice president of marketing, said the company believes the brakes were the cause.

'Somehow those brakes were released, and that's what is going to be investigated," McGonigle said in a telephone interview Sunday. "We're pretty comfortable saying it is the brakes. The train was parked, it was tied up. The brakes were secured. Somehow it got loose."

Lauzon, the fire chief, said firefighters in a nearby community were called to a locomotive blaze on the same train a few pened," McGonigle said.

hours before the derailment. Lauzon said he could not provide additional details about that fire since it was in another jurisdiction. McGonigle confirmed the fire department showed up after the first engineer tied up and went to a local hotel. Someone later reported a fire.

"We know that one of our employees from our engineering department showed up at the same time to assist the fire department. Exactly what they did is being investigated so the engineer wasn't the last man to touch that train, we know that. but we're not sure what hap-

## Russia official: Venezuela last chance for Snowden

MOSCOW (AP)—An influential Russian parliament member who often speaks for the Kremlin encouraged NSA leaker Edward Snowden on Sunday to accept Venezuela's offer of asylum.

Alexei Pushkov, who heads the international affairs committee in Russia's parliament, posted a message on Twitter saying: "Venezuela is waiting for an answer from Snowden. This, perhaps, is his last chance to receive political asylum."

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Elias Jaua said Saturday his country hasn't yet been in contact with Snowden, who

Russian officials say has been stuck in the transit area of Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport since arriving on a flight from Hong Kong two weeks ago. He has been unable to travel further because the U.S. annulled his passport.

Jaua said he expects to consult with Russian officials on Monday about Snowden's situation.

Pushkov's comments appeared to indicate that the Kremlin is now anxious to be rid of the former National Security Agency systems analyst, whom the U.S. wants returned to face espionage charges.

There has been no response from the Kremlin or Russian Foreign Ministry to the asylum offer made by Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro in the early hours of Saturday, Moscow time.

For Snowden to leave for South America, he would need for Venezuela to issue him travel documents and he would need to find a way to get there. The only direct commercial flight from Moscow goes to Havana, Cuba, and Snowden had booked a seat on this flight the day after arriving from Hong Kong, but failed to show up.

## Talks on Egypt leaders hit Islamist block

CAIRO (AP)—Secular and liberal factions trying to install one of their own as Egypt's new prime minister collided into strong resistance Sunday from the sole Islamist faction that backed the military's ouster of President Mohammed Morsi, reflecting the difficulties in building a broad coalition behind a new leadership.

As wrangling continued over the prime minister spot, giant rallies by the movements that pushed out Morsi took on a sharply nationalist tone, pervaded with posters of the military's chief and denunciations of the United States and President Barack Obama for

they see as their backing of the Islamist leader.

The show of strength in the streets was aimed at fending off a determined campaign by Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood, which brought out its own supporters Sunday in large protests.

Warning that the military is turning Egypt into a "totalitarian state," Brotherhood officials vowed to stay on the streets to reverse what they call a coup against democracy and restore Egypt's first freely elected president to office.

Military warplanes swooped over the anti-Morsi crowd filling Cairo's Tahrir Square, drawing a heart shape and an

Egyptian flag in the sky with colored smoke. Large banners read "Obama, hands off, a message to the USA. Obama supports the terrorists of 911" with a picture of Obama with an Islamists' beard.

Throughout Morsi's year in office, many of his opponents accused the United States of backing his administration. Washington often underlined that it was dealing with Morsi as the country's elected leader.

Before the wave of anti-Morsi protests began on June 30, U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Anne Patterson said in a speech that she was "deeply skeptical" protests would be fruitful.

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## Focus

**ASHINGTON** (AP)—The Pentagon's effort to account for tens of thousands of Americans missing in action from foreign wars is so inept, mismanaged and wasteful that it risks descending from "dysfunction to total failure," according to an internal study suppressed by military officials.

Largely beyond the public spotlight, the decades-old pursuit of bones and other MIA evidence is sluggish, often duplicative and subjected to too little scientific rigor, the report says.

The Associated Press obtained a copy of the internal study after Freedom of Information Act requests for it by others were denied.

The report paints a picture of a Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, a military-run group known as JPAC and headed by a two-star general, as woefully inept and even corrupt. The command is digging up too few clues on former battlefields, relying on inaccurate databases and engaging in expensive "boondoggles" in Europe, the study concludes.

In North Korea, the JPAC was snookered into digging up remains between 1996 and 2000 that the North Koreans apparently had taken out of storage and planted in former American fighting positions, the report said. Washington paid the North Koreans hundreds of thousands of dollars to "support" these excavations.

Some recovered bones had been drilled or cut, suggesting they had been used by the North Koreans to make a lab skeleton. Some of those remains have since been identified, but their compromised condition added time and expense and "cast doubt over all of the evidence recovered" in North Korea, the study said. This practice of "salting" recovery sites was confirmed to the AP by one U.S. participant.

JPAC's leaders authorized the study of its inner workings, but the then-commanding general, Army Maj. Gen. Stephen Tom, disavowed it and suppressed the findings when they were presented by the researcher last year. Now retired, Tom banned its use "for any purpose," saying the probe went beyond its intended scope. His deputy concurred, calling it a "raw, uncensored draft containing some contentious material."

The AP obtained two internal memos describing the decision to bury the report. The memos raised no factual objections but said the command would not consider any of the report's findings or recommendations.

The failings cited by the report reflect one aspect of a broader challenge to achieving a uniquely American mission—accounting for the estimated 83,348 service members still listed as missing from World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

This is about more than tidying up the historical record. It is about fulfilling a promise to the mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers and sons and daughters of the missing. Daughters like Shelia Reese, 62, of Chapel Hill, N.C., who still yearns for the father she never met, the boy soldier who went to war and never returned.

She was 2 months old when heart-breaking word landed at her grand-mother's door a week before Christmas 1950 that Pfc. Kenneth F. Reese, a 19-year-old artilleryman, was missing in action in North Korea. To this day, the military can't tell her if he was



In this photo taken Monday, July 1, 2013, in Chapel Hill, N.C., Shelia Reese, right, holds hands with her mother Chris Tench while holding a portrait of Tench and her father Kenneth F. Reese, a soldier who is still Missing In Action from the Korean War.

# Missing-in-action work found 'acutely dysfunctional'

killed in action or died in captivity. His body has never been found.

"It changed my whole life. I've missed this man my whole life," she says.

She's not alone.

Reese is among 7,910 unaccounted for from Korea, down from 8,200 when the war ended 60 years ago this month.

A sense of emptiness and unanswered questions haunted many families of the missing throughout the second half of the 20th century, when science and circumstance did not per-

mit the almost exact accounting for the dead and the missing that has

been achieved in Iraq and Afghanistan. While the government's efforts have provided closure for hundreds of families of the missing in recent years, many others are still waiting.

Over time, the obscure government bureaucracies in charge of the accounting task have largely managed to escape close public scrutiny despite clashing with a growing number of advocacy groups and individuals such as Frank Metersky, a Korean War veteran who has spent decades pressing for a more aggressive and effective U.S. effort.

The outlook for improvement at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, he says, is not encouraging.

"Today it's worse than ever," he says. People disagree on the extent of the problem. But even the current JPAC commander, Air Force Maj. Gen. Kelly K. McKeague, says he would not dispute those who say his organization is dysfunctional.

"I'd say you're right, and we're doing something about it," McKeague said in a telephone interview last week from his headquarters in Hawaii. He said changes, possibly to include consolidating the accounting bureaucracy and putting its management under the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, are under consideration.

The internal report by Paul M. Cole

was never meant to be made public. It is unsparing in its criticisms:

- In recent years the process by which JPAC gathers bones and other material useful for identifications has "collapsed" and is now "acutely dysfunctional."
- JPAC is finding too few investigative leads, resulting in too few collections of human remains to come even close to achieving Congress's demand for a minimum 200 identifications per year by 2015. Of the 80 identifications that JPAC's Central Identification Laboratory made in 2012, only 35 were derived from remains recovered by JPAC. Thirty-eight of the 80 were either handed over unilaterally by other governments or were disinterred from a U.S. military cemetery. Seven were from a combination of those sources.
  - Some search teams are sent into

the field, particularly in Europe, on what amount to boondoggles. No one is held to account for "a pattern of foreign travel, accommodations and activities paid for by public funds that are ultimately unnecessary, excessive, inefficient or unproductive." Some refer to this as "military tourism."

- JPAC lacks a comprehensive list of the people for whom it's searching. Its main database is incomplete and "riddled with unreliable data."
- "Sketch maps" used by the JPAC teams looking for remains on the battlefield are "chronically unreliable," leaving the teams "cartigraphically blind." Cole likened this to 19th century military field operations.

Absent prompt and significant change, "the descent from dysfunction to total failure ... is inevitable," Cole concluded.

He directed most of his criticism at the field operations that collect bones and other material, as opposed to the laboratory scientists at JPAC who use that material to identify the remains. Cole is a management consultant and recognized research expert in the field of accounting for war remains; he still works at JPAC.

More broadly, the government organizations responsible for the accounting mission, including the Pentagon's Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office, or DPMO, which is in charge of policy, have sometimes complicated their task by making pub-

lic statements that their critics view as disingenuous or erroneous.

The head of DPMO, for example, retired Army Maj. Gen. W. Montague Winfield, said last month at a public forum that the U.S. government has "no evidence" that U.S. servicemen taken prisoner in North Korea during the 1950-53 war were later moved to the former Soviet Union against their will and never returned.

Washington made a detailed case in writing to Moscow in 1993 that such transfers did happen, and the AP has obtained a videotape produced by U.S. officials and given to the Russians at the same time to support the U.S. case.

The tape, which has never before been made public, was provided to the AP by a former government official who was not authorized to release it. It says that based on interviews and other research, U.S. investigators believe "10s if not 100s" of American POWs were transferred to the territory of the former Soviet Union. In some cases they were moved to Russia through rail transfer points in China, the tape asserts.

"Certainly we understand that these operations were never meant to see the light of day," the film says.

The Russian government has repeatedly denied it received American POWs from Korea.

Mark Sauter, a private researcher and co-author with John Zimmerlee of "American Trophies and Washington's Cynical Attitude," an e-book about POWs to be published this month, found in government archives a U.S. intelligence report from August 1955, two years after the war, calling for a bigger intelligence effort to learn about such POW transfers.

"Continued and numerous fragmentary intelligence reports give credence to possible detention of a large number of American POWs in China, Manchuria, U.S.S.R., and North Korea," it said. It cited one "significant report" describing "a large number of U.S. POWs being shipped into U.S.S.R. by rail" from northeast China.

Accounting for the nation's war dead has been a politically charged issue for decades. The debate is not about the practicality of the mission, which some might question, but how it should be pursued.

Sometimes overlooked amid the squabbling is the emotional toll on the families of the missing. They are often bewildered by the bureaucracy and left to watch hope wear away with the passage of time.

In 1975, more than two decades after Pfc. Kenneth F. Reese was declared missing in Korea, his widow, Chris Tench, who had by then remarried, described her feelings in her local newspaper, the Gastonia (N.C) Gazette.

She wrote that initially she was relieved to realize that the policeman who delivered the news about Reese on Dec. 18, 1950, was saying that her husband was missing, not dead. He might turn up alive, she recalled thinking.

Later she thought differently.

"No, missing isn't dead," she wrote. "It's worse than dead."

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## Overdrive

# 5 new features that could be on your next car

**DETROIT** (AP)—Cameras that check around the car for pedestrians. Radar that stops you from drifting out of your lane. An engine able to turn off automatically at traffic lights to conserve fuel.

Technology that saves lives—and fuel—is getting better and cheaper. That means it's no longer confined to luxury brands like Mercedes and Volvo. It's showing up in mainstream vehicles like the Nissan Rogue and Ford Fusion.

'What we see today as slightly elitist technology is changing very, very fast," said Steven Lunn, chief operating officer for TRW Automotive, which supplies electronics and other parts to carmakers.

TRW says its newest radar is a quarter of the price of the model it sold 10 years ago. Its cameras are smaller and cheaper, too, making it easier to put multiple ones on each car.

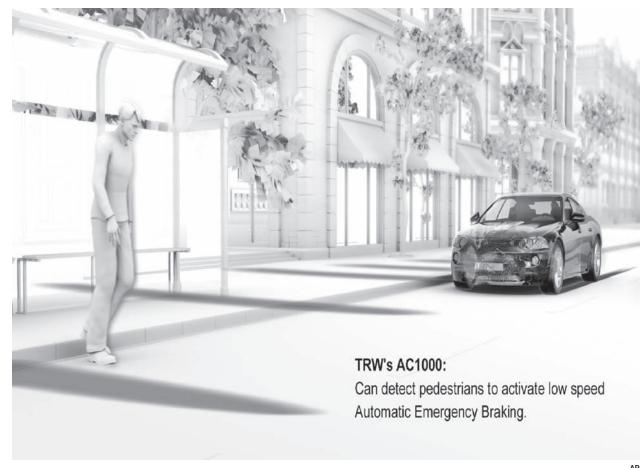
High-tech options can still cost a few thousand dollars more, but those costs will come down as technology improves and automakers add them to more and more vehicles.

Here are some up-and-coming features that drivers can expect on their next cars:

#### **COLLISION WARNING** WITH AUTOMATIC **BRAKING**

New cars have radar and camera systems that warn you, with beeping sounds, of a possible front-end crash. Some even stop the vehicle, or at least slow it enough to make a crash less severe. More sophisticated systems apply the brakes if a car veers off the road and heads toward a moving or fixed object. The systems are the outgrowth of adaptive cruise control, which came out 15 years ago and helps keep cars a safe distance from vehicles in front of them.

Mercedes, Honda, Toyota, Infiniti, Volvo and other brands offer automatic braking to avoid a collision; more automakers will follow soon. The systems seem to be working. David Zuby, the chief research officer at the Insurance



This photo provided by TRW Automotive shows a radar and camera systems that warn you, with beeping sounds, of a possible front-end crash is highlighted.

Institute for Highway Safety, said collision warning systems alone reduced crashes by 7 percent in a study of insurance claims for several thousand Mercedes vehicles with the technologies. Adding automatic braking doubled that benefit.

**ADVANCED CAMERAS** Automotive cameras are showing up on more cars ahead of a government requirement to install backup cameras, which is expected by 2015. But with cameras getting smaller and cheaper, automakers aren't just putting them on the back of the car anymore. Honda has side cameras that come on automatically when a turn signal is employed, so drivers can spot obstacles while turning. Nissan's aroundview monitor blends images from four

cameras tucked in the mirrors and elsewhere around the car into a composite, bird's-eye view to help the driver back out of a parking spot. The system is available on a high-end Rogue, which costs \$6,000 more than the base model. Volvo and Subaru have front-mounted cameras that can apply brakes to avoid hitting pedestrians.

According to Mobileye, an Israeli maker of automotive cameras, car companies are adding cameras that can read wrong-way road signs, detect large animals such as deer, and even note the colors of traffic lights. All that technology is coming by 2015. The next wave? Nissan and TRW are working on a system to automatically steer the car away from an obstacle. Expect that by 2016.

A camera can follow the road and gently nudge a car—using the brakes—to stay in the center of a lane. These systems—dubbed Lane Keep Assist-are available on most Mercedes-Benz vehicles as well as the Ford Fusion, Ford Explorer, Toyota Prius, Lexus GS and Lincoln MKZ. They aren't cheap. A combined lane-keeping and lanecentering system is a \$1,200 option on the Fusion SE. Prius owners must spend \$4,320 to get the system, packaged with cruise control and an entertainment system. Lane-centering is an outgrowth of lane-keeping systems, which first appeared on commercial trucks a decade ago. Those systems—now offered by Honda, Buick, Cadillac, Nissan and oth-

LANE CENTERING

driver's seat if a camera senses that a car is swerving out of its lane.

**ADAPTIVE HEADLIGHTS** Headlights don't have to be round any more to accommodate bulbs, so designers have more flexibility on where to put lights. And LEDs, or light-emitting diodes, are letting automakers cram more brightness into smaller spaces. Audi, Mercedes, Acura, Mazda and others have so-called adaptive headlights that swivel in the direction the car is going to help drivers see around corners as they turn. And many cars now have high-beam lights that sense oncoming traffic and dim automatically. The Ford Fusion and other mainstream cars have them, and drivers can buy after-market kits to add automatic high beams to cars without them.

■ STOP-START By 2025, new cars and trucks sold in the U.S. will have to average 54.5 miles per gallon of gasoline, up from the current 30.8 mpg. One feature will almost be a must-have: A "stopstart" device that shuts off the engine at a stop light and automatically turns it on when the driver releases the brake.

Alex Molinaroli, a vice president with Johnson Controls Inc., which makes batteries that power the systems, estimates they raise gas mileage by a minimum of 5 percent.

Stop-start first surfaced in Europe, where gas prices are far higher. Now, nearly all gas-electric hybrid vehicles have it, as do some cars and trucks with conventional engines. The BMW 3-Series has a simple system, helping the four-cylinder version with an automatic transmission get 28 mpg in combined city and highway driving. A high-mileage version of Chrysler's Ram pickup also has it, boosting combined mileage by 1 mpg to 21.

Currently, 5 percent of new U.S. cars have the systems as standard or optional equipment, up from just 0.5 percent two years ago, according to the Edmunds.com automotive website. Johnson Controls predicts that to rise to 40 to 45 percent by 2016.



QUESTION: I was driving my 2008 Ford Escape hybrid in rushhour traffic when my brake system failed.

The ABS warning light and a message on the information panel told me to check the brake system. When this nostic Trouble Codes C1479 and C1481 happened I lost most of my stopping power, although I had some braking left by pushing hard on the pedal. At my garage, the technician inspected the vehicle and read the failure codes-C1479 and C1481, which read "plausible brake pressure incorrect." They were unable to re-create the failure mode and the vehicle worked flawlessly in their tests.

The Ford dealer told me that the advice from Ford with these failure codes is to check for a brake fluid leak and, absent one, to replace the hydraulic control unit. There was no brake fluid leak. I have now cautiously driven the vehicle for several weeks and everything has worked perfectly every time, including the

braking system. The cost to replace the hydraulic control unit exceeds \$4,000. If this was your vehicle, what would you do?

**ANSWER:** That's a tough question. My Alldata automotive database confirms what the dealer told you. Diagrefer to left rear and right rear "brake pressure control plausibility failure," as quickly as the fronts. As the pads fuel filters.

the system with fresh DOT 3 brake fluid. Bleeding this system requires a special process done with a pressure bleeder and scan tool. Your Ford dealer might be the best choice for this.

Check the condition of rear brake pads. Due to the regenerative hybrid braking applied to the front wheels, the rear pads will wear roughly twice

Q: My 1991 Dodge Caravan with a 3.0-liter V-6 and 260,195 miles is acting like a cylinder or two are cutting out or missing. When the vehicle accelerates harder into passing gear, it runs OK. It will run without a problem for a week or more and then start missing again. It has new plugs and

er brands—sound a beep or vibrate the

## Cause of brake system failure requires sleuthing

By PAUL BRAND STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS

respectively. Ford's service recommendation is to check the hydraulic system for leaks, and if no leaks, replace the hydraulic control unit. The heavy pedal pressure required during this event indicates the brake system was in the "manual mode," which is basically a fail safe mode to ensure the brake system will still stop the vehicle.

Here's what I would do. Flush and bleed the entire brake system to remove any moisture and debris and fill

wear, more brake fluid is drawn into the system, perhaps trapping debris or air in the rear hydraulics.

If it were my vehicle and no problems were found during the inspection and bleed process, I'd be inclined to drive the vehicle cautiously until one of two things occurs—the brake issue recurs or, hopefully, it doesn't and your confidence in the brakes returns. Remember, even in the manual mode, the brakes still work and will still stop the vehicle.

A: With that many miles on the vehicle, start with a cylinder balance test the electronic version of a compression test. Low compression may be a big part of this issue. This same test will also evaluate performance of the ignition system and coil. A check for fault codes might turn up a clue as well, although this vehicle has an early OBD (onboard diagnostics) I engine management system with limited self-diagnostics.

And don't overlook low fuel pres-

sure as a possible intermittent cause. A weak pump or clogged sock filter might be a factor.

Q: I have Grandpa's big 1996 Buick Park Avenue and a 2012 Ford Focus. I know today's cars are much safer than yesterday's, but settle an argument: Which one of these is safer to be in on the road?

**A:** The Buick isn't that old and does incorporate many modern safety features like unit-body construction, side impact beams, crush zones and air bags. Given a choice, I'd take the Buick. In my opinion bigger is better-mass wins.

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn., 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. Because of the volume of mail, we cannot provide personal replies.

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# Life & Style

# Jason Statham showcases acting range in new film

By JOHN CARUCCI ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP)—With the success of his own franchise films like "The Transporter" and "Crank," as well as being a part of "The Expendables" and newly added to the "Fast and Furious" series, Jason Statham is a bonafide action star. But with his latest film, "Redemption," the actor shows his acting range by playing a homeless soldier on the streets of London.

Statham says he was drawn to the role because of its writer, Steven Knight, who penned the London underbelly dramas, "Eastern Promises," and "Dirty Pretty Things." The 45-year-old is hoping to add another dimension to his movie career, which began in 1998 when director Guy Ritchie discovered him selling perfume and jewelry on the streets of London.

AP: What did you learn about homeless soldiers while doing this film?

**Statham:** We sat with exsoldiers and they told us how difficult it was to come back. They told us stories about their friends, how they lost an eye, how they lost limbs. How do you expect to get a job with a disabil- I ever thought I would do any-

shoot a gun or operate a weapon, but all of these things are of no use anymore. ... We found a lot of soldiers end up on the street because they find it easier to exist there. They can function because it's almost like a frontier between what's legal and illegal and find a way to do something that they were good at.

AP: Steven wrote "Eastern Promises." Did you agree to do this film providing there wasn't a naked fight scene in

**Statham:** (Laughs) That was a great fight. ... I admire it, but I don't want to be in it.

AP: You were once a diver for the British national team. How did that translate to action star?

**Statham:** It was a hobby and

I went in a couple competitions. Within a year I'm on the British team and I'm running around the world (in) competition. It's a 10-meter platform, you're throwing yourself around. You're doing spins and twists and you know you get to visit countries you never get to visit and you compete with all the nationalities around the world. It's a giggle. It's not something

ity? You've been shown how to thing with. I just wasted 10 years on it that's all. I think people think that's my calling card which it never was.

> AP: When (Sylvester) Stallone called you for "The Expendables," was it like getting accepted into the all-star game of action stars?

> **Statham:** Of course. I'm from the U.K. (laughs.) There's no big action stars out there and for me to get the invite was a great thing. It's a big privilege to be part of the cinema icons. ... There's no one on the planet that doesn't recognize the man (Stallone) so to be asked to come to the party is a big privilege and you can never overlook that great sort of invite.

> AP: With basically you and James Bond as the country's action stars, how are you perceived in the U.K.?

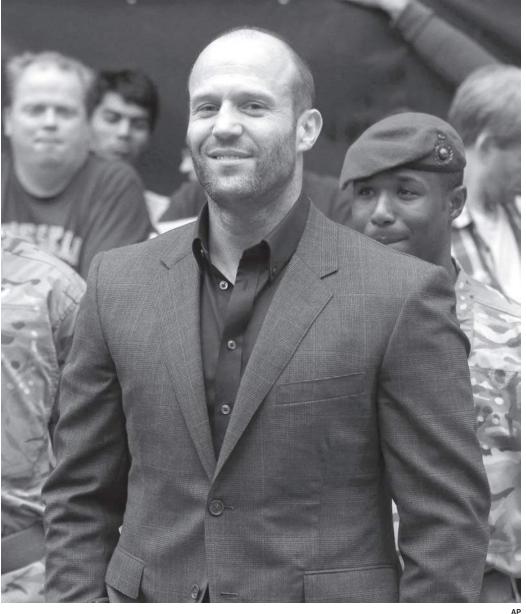
Statham: I have no clue (laughs). I wouldn't know. Let's see. ... They'll review this and we'll see what they think of it. I don't know. I really don't know. Sometimes you don't know what the critic wants to see, whether they like what I do, whether they don't. There's always going to be a fair amount of people that don't like what I do and an amount of people

day it's about what the audience likes. .. The world's a big place and if people are going to see the films, we're only making it for the audience. We're not making it for people that don't pay to go see it. It's nice to have good things written about you but it's not good to get carried away beto such a degree to think you're something that you're not. Constructive criticism is good but if it's done with a poisonous ink then I'm not so keen.

AP: After building a career on action films, what other kind of role would you take?

**Statham:** I'd love to do

that do. I think at the end of the cause you can inflate your head an action comedy. I'd love to anything—if it's good, and the quality is good and the director is smart and the producer is a clever chap and everybody is working together. It has to fit me. It's no good for me to do so radically different that I'm going to look ... I'm going to regret that. There's no point.



In this Aug. 13, 2012 file photo, actor Jason Statham poses as he arrives for the UK premiere of Expendables 2 in London

Saatchi says he is divorcing Nigella Lawson

### Natalie Cole releases her 1st Spanish album

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—It's been four years since Natalie Cole received a kidney from a Salvadorian donor, and the singer says it not only connected her to Hispanic culture, it has given her the strength to record her first post-operation album—totally in Spanish.

"I don't believe in coincidences. I believe everything happens for a reason. That this was a Latin family, I feel like I'm part Latino now. That (made) the desire to make this record became even stronger," Cole said recently during a private listening session of "Natalie Cole En Espanol," released

This is Cole's first album since she received her kidney in May 2009. Her donor was a young woman from El Salvador who died while giving birth to a baby boy, Lucas, said Cole (the Grammy-winner received the donation after suffering from hepatitis C, a liver disease spread through contact with infected blood).

"I couldn't totally grasp, understand it, but there's something there, the spirit of this young girl, the spirit of this family, the spirit of the Latin culture, of a Latin heart is inside me," the 63-year-old said.

Produced by Cuban-American Rudy Perez, the 12-track album is a compilation of Latin American classics, plus a



Singer-songwriter Natalie Cole poses for a portrait in promotion of her new album "Natalie Cole en Espanol," on Wednesday, June 26, 2013

includes titles like "Solamente" him on the new album over a re-Una Vez" by Mexican Agustin Lara, "El Dia que Me Quieras" by Argentine Carlos Gardel and a medley of "Voy a Apagar La Luz" and "Contigo Aprendí" by Mexican Armando Manzanero, as well as two duets: "Besame Mucho," with Italian Andrea Bocelli, and "Bachata Rosa," with Dominican music legend Juan Luis Guerra.

The album title is reminiscent of her famous father Nat King Cole's "Cole Espanol," which brought him love and recognition in Spanish-speaking countries.

Cole, who famously sang with her deceased father with technological wizardry on the

Spanish-language version of the best-selling "Unforgettable," Beatles' "And I Love Her." It now sings "Acercate Mas" with cording he did in Cuba in 1956. This duet was possible thanks to a recently discovered recording that Nat King Cole did in Cuba in 1956, said Perez.

Both father and daughter recorded their Spanish albums learning the lyrics phonetically; neither of them spoke the language.

"Black people and Hispanic people have the same kind of feel for passion, for music, for fun, for heart," Cole said. "We are very similar in that way and that to me is the next language. I love French ... I love Portuguese, I love Italiano, but for me right now is Espanol."

#### **LONDON** (AP)—Prominent art collector Charles Saatchi said Sunday he is divorcing his celebrity chef wife Nige-

lla Lawson because she did not publicly defend his reputation after images emerged of him grasping her throat in a posh London restaurant.

Tabloid newspapers last month published photos of the incident, which Saatchi described as a "playful tiff" during an intense debate about the couple's children.

The 70-year-old Saatchi was given a police "caution" after admitting assault.

He told Britain's Mail on Sunday newspaper that he was "sorry" to announce he will be divorcing Lawson, adding that they have become "estranged" and drifted apart over the past year.

"I feel that I have clearly been a disappointment to Nigella during the last year or so, and I am disappointed that she was advised to make no public comment to explain that I abhor

violence of any kind against women, and have never abused her physically in any way," he said.

In what the tabloid called an "exclusive statement" breaking the news to Lawson, Saatchi also sug-

gested that Lawson had herself grasped his neck in a similar fashion in the past.

The Mail on Sunday said that Lawson was not made aware of the divorce move prior to publication.

Lawson and Saatchi married in 2003 and lived in London with Lawson's son and daughter from her marriage to journalist John Diamond, who died of cancer in 2001, and Saatchi's daughter from a pre-

vious marriage. Lawson's spokesman Mark

Hutchinson—who previously has confirmed that she and her children left the family home after the photos were published-declined to comment on Saatchi's statement.

Lawson is a well-

known TV presenter and chef whose cookbooks are best-sellers in Britain and the United States.

Saatchi, co-founder of the Saatchi & Saatchi ad agency, owns one of London's biggest private art galleries. He was the main patron of the Young British Artists movement of the 1990s, which made household names of artists including Damien Hirst and Tracey Emin.



## Rolling Stones return to Hyde Park after 44 years

Stones returned to London's Hyde Park after 44 years with a concert that saluted both the band's past and the fleetingly idyllic English summer. Mick Jagger even donned a frock for the occasion.

The band played an outdoor gig for 65,000 people Saturday in the same venue as a landmark 1969 show performed two days after the death of founding member Brian Jones.

It's most often remembered for the vast crowd of more than 200,000, for Jagger quoting Percy Bysshe Shelley as eulogy to Jones—and for the white dress Jagger wore onstage.

Jagger took the stage in a similar white smock Saturday for a rendition of "Honky Tonk Women," a song the band also played in 1969.

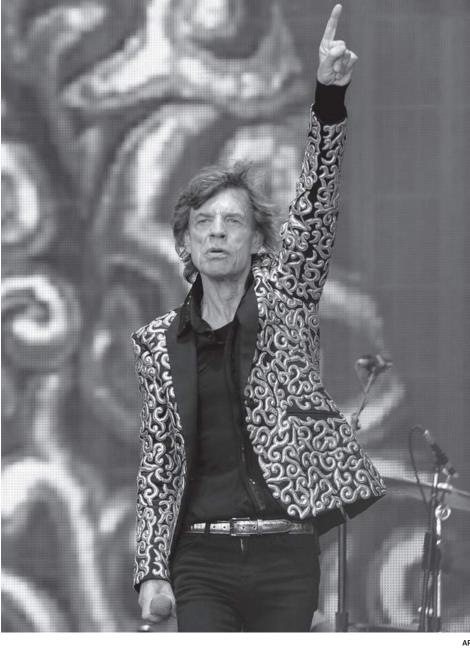
"Just something I found in the back," he said.

Much else has changed since 1969. Then, the concert was free. On Saturday, some fans had paid 200 pounds (\$300) a ticket. Jagger turns 70 this month, drummer Charlie Watts is 72, and guitarist Keith Richards is 69.

"It's taken a while, but we got back," Richards said.

And the Stones seemed genuinely glad to have returned. Fresh off a headlining slot at the Glastonbury Festival last week, the band was in relaxed but rousing form during a set that kicked off with "Start Me Up" and "It's Only Rock 'n' Roll (But I Like It)."

"Anybody here that was here in 1969?" Jagger asked, getting at least a few affirmative shouts. "Welcome back—it's nice to see you again."



Mick Jagger of Rolling Stones performs at British Summer Time at Hyde Park in London on Sat-

really more optimistic. I see so

much hope and a lot of people

are starting to recognize that the

war on drugs isn't working. It is

a waste of money and we could

divert those resources into so

many more productive things. ...

So the thing that's frustrating to

me is that it's taken so long. For-

AP: In your documentary, 50

ty years of the same mistake.

The band played on a stage surrounded by fake trees and foliage -"like a cross between Wimbledon and a pantomime forest," Jagger said-but it was scarcely necessary. The park was already a leafy idyll on a rare London day of bright sunshine and soaring temperatures.

"This time of year in England, it's the best place to be in the world," Jagger said, before quoting Shakespeare: "Summer's lease has all too short a date."

The show featured some songs that had yet to be written in 1969, including "Beast of Burden" and the recent "Doom and Gloom," as well as 1960s favorites like "Sympathy For the Devil," "Paint It Black" and "Gimme Shelter."

Former band member Mick Taylor, who played with the band for the first time at the 1969 show, joined the Stones onstage for "Midnight Rambler."

"We just found him in the pub and put him onstage in front of 200,000 people," Jagger joked of Taylor's debut.

The band nodded to its past with bigscreen footage of old concerts, and saluted its inspirations with clips of blues greats from B.B. King to James Brown and Etta James. Young Texas bluesman Gary Clark Jr. was invited onstage to play with the band on "Bitch."

It all ended with fireworks and "Satisfaction"—and for fans in the crowd, satisfaction.

"They're the greatest rock 'n roll band in the world," said 25-year-old James Williamson, who inherited a love of the Stones from his father.

"At the end of the day, they're more talented than any band that's around today. They've still got an

## Oscars of Indian cinema to be held in US in 2014

TAMPA, Florida (AP)— Bollywood's version of the Oscars is coming to Florida, and it marks the first time that the multiday film event will be held in the United States.

Tampa officials nounced Friday that the International Indian Film Academy's Weekend & Awards is expected to bring thousands of visitors to the area next June. Local officials say previous IIFA events have generated up to 24,000 room nights with a local economic impact exceeding \$11 million.

According to the IIFA, the awards have a worldwide viewership of approximately 600,000 people.

The term "Bollywood" is the nickname for the Mumbai-based Hindi film industry-but Indian cinema isn't just comprised of the song-and-dance extravaganzas mostly produced there. Indian cinema has become the largest producer of films in the world. India produced nearly 1,500 films last year, according to accounting firm KPMG.

While they have been slow to catch on in the U.S. outside major cities, Indian films have won audiences across the world.

The group's selection of the U.S. as the site for its 2014 awards could signal a push to gain Englishspeaking audiences. Indian directors also are eager to bring different kinds of films—not just the popular musicals-to a worldwide audience.

In an email, Corrada of Tampa Bay and Co. said the local Indian community was instrumental in winning the film awards bid.

"We have a very active, dedicated and supportive Indian community in Tampa Bay," he said. "They have championed this bid from the beginning and of course, with all of our assets, we make the perfect host city."

The IIFA is based in Mumbai, India. It presents the awards to honor achievements in Indian cinema.

The awards weekend takes place in a different city around the world each year. The 2013 event is being held this week in Macau, and Tampa officials and local organizers of the 2014 event are attending this year's festival.

## Grenier on drug documentary, 'Entourage' encore

By NICOLE EVATT



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Though his party boy character Vincent Chase on

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DESPICABLE ME 2 3D [CC] (PG) Tue. - Wed.(140 PM) 720 PM

**LONE RANGER [CC] (PG-13)** Tue. - Wed.(1245 PM 400 PM) 715 PM

THE HEAT [CC] (R) Tue. - Wed.(135 PM 435 PM) 735 PM

WHITE HOUSE DOWN [CC] (PG-13) Tue. - Wed.(105 PM 405 PM) 705 PM MONSTERS UNIVERSITY [CC] (G) Tue. - Wed.(410 PM)

MONSTERS UNIVERSITY 3D [CC] (G) Tue. - Wed.(110 PM) 710 PM

WORLD WAR Z [CC] (PG-13) Tile. - Wed.(355 PM)

MAN OF STEEL [CC] (PG-13) Tue. - Wed.(345 PM)

MAN OF STEEL 3D [CC] (PG-13) Tue. - Wed.(1230 PM) 700 PM

all eight seasons of "Entourage" savored life in the limelight, Adrian Grenier says he's quite content to be on the other side of the camera.

"I'm perfectly fine behind the scenes," said Grenier, who was on "Entourage" from 2004-2011. "Films don't get made without producers. So you know I feel OK (producing). I don't need the attention

or the accolades."

Grenier teamed with director Matthew Cooke to produce the documentary "How to Make Money Selling Drugs," which paints a bleak picture of the war against drugs.

Celebrities including Woody Harrelson, Eminem, 50 Cent, Susan Sarandon, and surprisingly candid former drug dealers participated in the film, now playing in select theaters and on Video on Demand.

In a recent interview, the 36-year-old actor discussed the documentary, the upcoming "Entourage" movie and his latest music project:

AP: What are your thoughts on America's anti-drug efforts?

In this Tuesday, June 18, 2013 photo, Adrian Grenier poses for a portrait in Los Angeles. Grenier is promoting his new documentary, " How to Make Money Selling Drugs," which he produced. He also stars in an upcoming "Entourage" film, that he says has been green lit for production. **Adrian Grenier:** I'm

**Cent talks about being a dealer** which means there is a budget alwhen he was 12. How did you feel about that?

**Grenier:** 50 Cent was very generous to participate, and I think it just goes to show you he was unafraid to speak and communicate. So I think he should be an example for having that honest conversation. He's been there so he recognizes how prob-

lematic the drug trade can be when it's criminalized and when it becomes a black market.

AP: Are vou tired of being hounded by fans about the "Entourage" film?

**Grenier:** Persistence is a great way to get something done. I know that from filmmaking. You just keep at it, relentless pursuit. So I don't blame 'Entourage' fans. In fact, I commend them for their relentless demand of the 'Entourage' movie.

AP: So what can you tell us about the movie?

**Grenier:** Let's go through the facts: There's a script and I think it's good. I hear it's good. I haven't read it. ... Everybody's onboard. Everybody wants to make the movie. It's been green-lit, tourage.' A lot of fun and a lot of antics. Maybe some irresponsible behavior. AP: Early days? Wasn't that

located and I think the fifth fact is

AP: What are you hoping to

**Grenier:** I really want to go

back to the early days of 'En-

see in Vince's next chapter?

it's only a matter of time.

every day? Grenier: Oh right. Yeah, I guess so. Let's just do it again.

AP: So when vou're not making films, are you discovering new talent through your home studio and music project, wreckroom.tv?

**Grenier:** I built the studio in my basement, a beautiful studio. I was really proud of it. But I just couldn't ever use it enough because I'm a little busy. And I decided to give it up to the community. ... We bring bands in and give them an opportunity to record in a professional studio and make a video and we put it out online. So we are a support system, an incubator for independent bands to help them get noticed.

#### AP: When will we hear new music from you?

**Grenier:** I need to get back in (the studio). It's funny, too. Now that I've started Wreckroom, I can't even book my own studio. I have to get on the list.



Joey Chestnut laughs as he stands on the scale during the official weigh-in for the Nathan's Fourth of July hot dog eating contest, Wednesday, July 3, 2013 at City Hall park in New York.

## Chestnut downs 69 dogs to win 7th-straight contest

## **US film academy invites** 276 to join its ranks

LOS ANGELES (AP)— Jennifer Lopez, Lena Dunham, Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Lucy Liu have received one of the most exclusive invitations in Hollywood.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences announced Friday that it has invited them, and 272 others, to join its ranks.

Other invitees include Jason Bateman, Rosario Dawson, "Machete" star Danny Trejo, "Bridesmaids" director Paul Feig and "Before Midnight" writer-star Julie Delpy.

All 16 branches of the film academy extended invitations to new members, from hairstylists and sound engineers to producers and publicists.

Those who accept the invitations will be able to vote on the recipients of the next Academy Awards, set for March 2, 2014.

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Joey mustard-yellow champion's belt. Chestnut has downed 69 franks and devoured his own record in the annual hot dog eating contest.

The man known as Jaws scarfed down the dogs and buns to win the Fourth of July contest. He takes home \$10,000 and a

The total beat his personal best by one wiener. Last year, Chestnut won the competition

with 62 hot dogs.

Second place went to Matt Stonie with 51 hot dogs.

Chestnut has now bested his

former rival, Takeru Kobayashi, with seven wins. Kobayashi competed in a different eating contest Thursday.

Sonya "Black Widow" Thomas eked out a narrow victory in the women's race by scarfing nearly 37 hot dogs.

## Rapper 50 Cent denies kicking ex-girlfriend

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Rapper 50 Cent denies allegations he attacked his ex-girlfriend trashed her condo.

The "In da Club" singer's lawyer says there's no warrant Jackson outstanding on the domestic violence and vandal- Jackson began destroying prop-



Cent, whose real name is Curtis Jackson. If convicted, he

faces up to five years in jail and \$46,000 in fines.

The woman told police that during a June 23 argument,

ism charges against 50 erty at her condo before she locked herself into a bedroom. She says Jackson kicked open the bedroom door and kicked her, causing injury.

Police estimated about \$7,100 in damage to the home.

The woman told police she had been in a three-year relationship and has a baby with Jackson.

His arraignment is July 22.

#### Baldwin apologizes to NY gay group for tweets

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Alec ing during the funeral for the Baldwin has apologized to a New York City-based lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights group for a series of tweets that could be interpreted as homophobic.

Baldwin's messages were directed at a newspaper reporter who accused his wife of tweetformer star of "The Sopranos" James Gandolfini. Baldwin says in a letter to GLAAD posted on its website Friday his tweets didn't have anything to do with "issues of anyone's sexual orientation.'

The former "30 Rock" star says he's done political work

with marriage equality groups and insists he wouldn't advocate violence against someone for being gay.

GLAAD spokesman Rich Ferraro says Baldwin's language was improper and his tweets didn't reflect his "history of actively supporting LGBT equality."

#### SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

#### Prince Harry qualifies as Apache chopper commander

LONDON (AP)—Britain's defense ministry says Prince Harry has qualified to command an Apache attack helicopter-the culmination of his training over the last three years. Harry, known as Capt. Wales in the army, earlier this year completed a 20-week deployment in Afghanistan as a co-pilot gunner on an Apache and since then has flown missions in the U.K. His commanding officer, Lt. Col. Tom de la Rue, called the qualification a "tremendous achievement," saying in a statement Friday that 28-year-old Harry had passed with "flying colors." The military said Harry had undergone months of training to prepare for the test, which involved a "grueling" six-hour flying assessment which took him all over the U.K. and required him perform a variety of tasks including simulating a low-level attack.

#### Publisher of Mitch Albom, Caroline Kennedy is sold **NEW YORK** (AP)—Best sellers by Caroline Kennedy, Mitch Albom

and Michael J. Fox are among more than 1,000 books published by Hyperion that have been acquired by Hachette Book Group. Hachette announced Friday that it had purchased Hyperion, an imprint of Disney Publishing Worldwide. Hyperion was once a steady source of popular works, such as novels by Albom and audio interviews of Jacqueline Kennedy that Caroline Kennedy helped approve for release. But in recent years, Disney has been focusing on books that can be tied to the company's television projects. Hachette had already been distributing Hyperion books. Hachette also acquired the rights to some upcoming releases, including books by J.R. Moehringer and actor Ethan Hawke.

#### 'Le grand cahier' wins Karlovy Vary film festival

PRAGUE (AP)—Hungarian director Janos Szasz's "Le grand cahier" has won the top prize at the 48th edition of an international film festival in the Czech spa town of Karlovy Vary. The movie, a coproduction of Hungary, Germany, Austria and France, is based on a debut novel by Hungarian author Agota Kristof about 13-yearold twin brothers who have to spend the cruel years at the end of World War II with their grandmother. It was chosen from 14 contenders for the Crystal Globe by the festival's grand jury led by Polish director Agnieszka Holland. Saturday's award also comes with a \$25,000 cash prize.

#### Boston rocker must pay \$132,000 in failed lawsuit

BOSTON (AP)—The founder of the rock band Boston has been ordered to pay a newspaper \$132,000 for the court costs it incurred in successfully defending itself against his defamation lawsuit. Musician Tom Scholz claimed the Boston Herald and two reporters blamed him for the 2007 suicide of lead singer Brad Delp. A Superior Court judge dismissed his lawsuit in March, saying it was impossible to know why Delp killed himself. Scholz's attorneys argued he shouldn't have to pay court costs. The judge said court rules require it and such costs could have a chilling effect on "free expression of ideas and opinions by media defendants." Herald publisher Pat Purcell said Friday the decision is a reminder of "the harmful impact" such lawsuits can have. Boston peaked in the 1970s and '80s with hits such as "More Than a Feeling."

## Idea for surprise wedding may need further thought by ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

**DEAR ABBY**: I am thinking about planning a "surprise" wedding for me and my fiance. We have been together for eight years and have lived together for seven. We put off the wedding for many reasons, chiefly the cost because those things are expensive. We do not want to just elope.



The idea of having a theme party and inviting all our friends and family occurred to Dear Abby me the other day. Then, in the middle of it,

we could bring in a priest and tie the knot! I have figured out the cost, and it shouldn't be more than a grand. We could swing

But my question is, do we tell anyone about it beforehand? I told one of my girlfriends and my fiance, and they think it's a great idea. It would take a lot of stress off. Should I tell my parents? They sometimes blab (Dad is worse than Mom) when they're excited about something.

STEALTH BRIDE-TO-BE

DEAR STEALTH BRIDE-TO-BE: One person you should definitely discuss this with would be the priest. Ask if he would be willing to marry a couple who has been living together because some aren't, and also if he'd prefer the solemn vows be taken in a house of worship rather than a theme-party atmosphere. If that's the case, you may have to settle for an officiant of another faith or a justice of the peace to perform the ceremony.

Also, I suggest you rethink your idea of keeping this happy news from your folks, who may have been praying for this for seven years. They might feel very hurt to find they were kept in the dark.

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband's stepmother and father send religious-themed gifts for every holiday. We have an abundance of unused books, DVDs, stickers, coloring books, dolls, bookmarks,

etc., purchased from local Christian stores for a hefty price. We don't see them often during the year because we live in different states, but we would like our kids to have a good relationship with them. The kids don't seem to be fazed by it, but they also don't get excited about opening and using these gifts.

We pay for our children to participate in religious education as well as attend several church functions during the school year. We believe grandparents should be interested in learning about what each child is drawn to, and not so much about preaching their own religious beliefs to us. It makes us uncomfortable and resentful at times.

How does one politely tell in-laws to stop sending religiousthemed gifts?

OVERLOADED IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR OVERLOADED: One doesn't. A better way to handle it would be to communicate with them in between these holidays and tell them what activities the grandkids are involved in, and any new interests they may have. A stronger hint than that would be offensive, and I don't recommend it.

As to what to do with the unused items—donate them.

**DEAR ABBY**: When my daughter calls her mother-in-law "Mom," it hurts my feelings. I gave birth to her, worked hard to put a roof over her head and food in her mouth. She has only one mother during her lifetime—ME. I never called my motherin-law "Mom." The name meant something to me, and it was reserved for the woman who gave me life!

DISAPPOINTED IN IDAHO

DEAR DISAPPOINTED: Many women besides your daughter call their mothers-in-law "Mom." Rather than be jealous and territorial, you should be happy that your daughter has such a warm relationship with her mother-in-law.

However, because you feel slighted, ask if she would be willing to call her MIL "Mama Smith"—something other than her name for you when you are all together in order to avoid "confusion."

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Ange-

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

**22** TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2013 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

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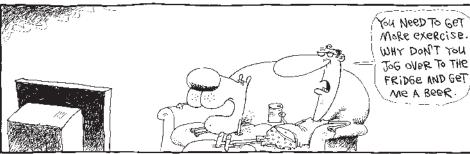
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or answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touchtone/rotary phones. (18- only.) A King

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Fred** Savage, 37; Jack White, 38; Tom Hanks, 57; Jimmy Smits, 58

Happy Birthday: You may be pressured to change the way you do things. Don't give in if you believe you have a better or more unique way of accomplishing your goals. Do your research and keep adding to your knowledge and skills. Broaden your horizons and expand your friendships. Speak up and your memory will impress someone. Your numbers are 5, 14, 21, 26, 30, 38, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You are best to focus on what you do best and forget about trying to please everyone around you. Social events should include some form of physical activities that will keep you out of trouble or help you make self-improvements. 😂

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Mingle with friends, relatives or neighbors. What you learn from interacting with others will help you make an important decision regarding your home, family and your future. Don't let your stubbornness stand between you and a good time. OOOO

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): When it comes to earning a living or making donations, you are best not to make snap decisions that might jeopardize your financial future. Use your experience and know-how to find solutions to any work-related problem you face. Greater security is apparent.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Revisit the obstacles that stand in your way and consider what it will take to work your way around whatever is holding you back. Making a subtle but strategic move will far exceed the results you get if you are impulsive. •••

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Personal changes will make you feel good and raise your confidence. A change in the way you are treated will alter the way you treat others. Improving your surroundings or investments will result in greater accomplishments and satisfaction.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll impress new acquaintances with your intellect and knowledge. You can make financial gains, but you mustn't be too quick to extend a helping hand. Offer suggestions, not cash, if someone is looking for a handout. Protect a good idea. OOO

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Observe and listen to what's being said. Approach difficult situations graciously and with the intent to please. Expect others to overreact. Having your facts correct will help you redirect any notion or assumption that you are to blame. Romance is highlighted.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Improve or utilize your space at home better. The changes you make will inspire you to take on a project that can help you expand your skills, knowledge or capability to earn more cash. A contract or proposal shows great potential.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may have to twist things around to fit your schedule, but once you have everything in place, you should be able to make the alterations required to make your life happier. Love and romance are on the rise. **OOOOO** 

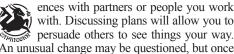
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Settle differ-

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD

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CARING MEG



with. Discussing plans will allow you to persuade others to see things your way. An unusual change may be questioned but once the results come in, it will be easy to keep moving forward. 🛇 😂

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Physical ) activity, challenges and working toward a better relationship with someone you care about will help improve your life and the way you do things. A change in your beliefs is apparent but must be considered carefully before you make a commitment.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Investments will be prosperous, and expanding your interests, surroundings or friendships will help you reach your goals. Don't be afraid to do things differently. It's your uniqueness that will attract the support you need. ••• Birthday Baby: You are charming and conscientious. You are confident and bold.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ http://bit.ly/exhoro and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ http://bit.ly/exhoro and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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Difficulty Level ★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

	Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer								
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7/09

## WONDERWORD

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters seal this Westerman

CHINA'S THREE CORGES

By DAVID

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To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 33, 34, 35, 36 or 37, cell 1-800-642-6480. Order online at wonderword universaluclic knorn. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

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Qualification Requirements: At least experience years subcomponent-level automotive repair with a focus on modern Japanese engines in passenger vehicles and commercial vehicles and equipment. Conversant with all models of modern Japanese engines, common failure points, and accepted diagnostics methods. Adept at using OBD-2 and other diagnostic tools. Excellent machining and wielding skills. Need at least five years experience in customer service, estimating, record-keeping, and parts and materials procurement. Must be proficient in English at a level sufficient to communicate with customers. Prefer additional basic Mandarin Chinese language skills to communicate with shop's predominantly Chinese-speaking contruck clientele.

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Qualification Requirements: At least experience in twenty years of and electronics electrical maintenance and repair, and at least five years of experience in managing an automotive repair shop. Must have an excellent skills in electronics, such as soldering and subcomponent and board-level repair, and be very familiar with electrical theory and the use of multimeter to diagnose electrical and electronic

Please email your resume to info@saipanfix.com

WHATZIT Solution: Checkered flag

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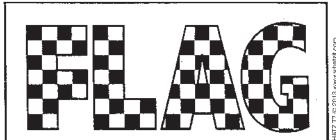
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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in classified section



# Blixt wins rain-delayed Greenbrier Classic by 2



Blixt wasn't having the type of year he had envisioned—until the final round of the Greenbrier Classic came along.

The Swede shot a 3-under 67 Sunday to win the rain-delayed tournament by two strokes.

Blixt emerged from a five-player chase over the final five holes to pick up the \$1.1 million winner's check. He also shot from 139th to 39th in the FedEx Cup points standings.

"This is what I play for," Blixt said. "I play to win. It just confirms that if you do the right things, that you work hard, dreams can come true."

Among the perks for his victory are a spot in next year's Masters.

Blixt also will move to around No. 50 in the next world ranking, which is used as the alternate list to fill the field for this month's British Open. That would make him the top alternate in a year that about eight players from the list will get into the Open at Muirfield.

He overcame a four-shot deficit at the start of the final round and finished at 13-under 267. Third-round leader Johnson Wagner (73), Australians Steven Bowditch (68) and Matt Jones (68), and Jimmy Walker (71) tied for second at 11 under.

Blixt went from a tie to a two-shot lead when he made a 9-foot birdie putt on No. 16 to move to 13 under. No other player made a birdie after that. Wagner bogeyed the par-3 15th moments later to fall to 11 under alongside Bowditch and Walker.

Blixt also won the Frys.com Open last year as a tour rookie. But entering the Greenbrier Classic, he hadn't had a top-10 finish this season, missing as many cuts as he made.

Blixt was overcome with emotion after watching Wagner and Walker, needing



Jonas Blixt struggles to lift the trophy as Greenbrier resort owner Jim Justice, left, watches after Blixt won the Greenbrier Classic PGA golf tournament in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., Sunday, July 7, 2013.

holes-in-one at No. 18, reach the green but land well away from the hole.

"It's just been a hard year," Blixt said. "My game has not been on."

Defending champion Ted Potter Jr. (67), Pat Perez (69) and Brian Stuard (67) tied for sixth at 9 under.

Wagner, who had missed out on weekend play in his last seven tournaments, couldn't match the seven birdies he had in the third round on his way to a 64. He bogeyed three holes in a fivehole stretch on the back nine and never

The 54-hole leader has yet to win the Greenbrier Classic, now in its fourth year.

"The swing just left," Wagner said. "I'm furious. But given where I was a couple of weeks ago, I'll take a lot of positives when I get over this disappointment right now."

While Bowditch couldn't make up a five-shot deficit, he earned his first top-10 since Pebble Beach in 2011.

Play on the Old White TPC course was halted for three hours due to thunderstorms. The last group teed off at 5:10 p.m. EDT and finished just after sunset. The tour narrowly avoided going past a Sunday finish for the fourth

Many players in the Greenbrier Classic field are entered in the John Deere Classic that starts Thursday, including Walker, Blixt and Jordan Spieth. Spieth ran off nine straight pars to start Sunday's round, then had two bogeys in a four-hole stretch. He shot 73 and finished tied for 23rd at 6 under. The 19-year-old Texan is still searching for an elusive win that would give him his PGA Tour membership and make him eligible for the FedEx Cup playoffs. He is assured of a tour card when the new season starts in October.

Walker joined four others after the Greenbrier Classic to earn spots in the British Open as the leading five players not already exempt from the top 20 in the FedEx Cup standings. He moved up to 17th. The others are Billy Horschel, Boo Weekley, Russell Henley and Harris English.

The Greenbrier Classic has had close finishes in every year of its four-year existence. The tournament went to playoffs the past two years and Stuart Appleby shot 59 to win by a stroke in 2010.

The tournament's end means New Orleans Saints coach Sean Payton can go back to his regular job after carrying the bag of friend Ryan Palmer.

"It's a good grind, good exercise," Payton said. "I thought Ryan was really patient."

Palmer shot a 71 Sunday to finish in a tie for 62nd at even par.

"It was a blast," Palmer said. "I was more relaxed. A vacation golf tournament. I wish I could have played better."

## Froome shows he can take Tour de France punches



France (AP)— The mighty mountains of the

Pyrenees offered at least two important insights about Tour de France leader Chris Froome: He can land terrible blows to his rivals with his grinding uphill speed and can take their punches, too. In short, if the Briton in the yellow jersey perhaps isn't unbeatable, he seems very close to it.

513 kilometers (940 miles), the Tour luxuriates in its first rest day on Monday. The pause allows the contenders for victory in Paris on July 21 to lick their wounds and regroup after Froome knocked them dizzy and grabbed the race lead with a triumphant first day of climbing in the Pyrenees on Saturday. But they'll also be ruing the opportunity they collectively wasted the very next day on Sunday to hurt Froome right back.

On what may well prove to have been one of the toughest and decisive days of this 100th Tour, and certainly one of the most tactical and interesting, Froome's rivals isolated him from his Sky teammates and forced him to ride alone—one man against many—

**BAGNERES**- up four consecutive climbs as jagged **DE-BIGORRE**, as sharks' teeth. But they could not make Froome crack.

> "That was one of the hardest days that I've ever had on a bike," the 2012 Tour runner-up said after defending his yellow jersey.

The rival who harassed Froome most, with successive squirts of acceleration on the last climb, was Nairo Quintana. The lesson the Colombian drew from this drama amid pine forests and peaks with stubborn patches After nine hectic days of racing over of snow was: "That we can break down his team a little, but that he can defend himself and is very strong."

Sky's impressive climbing on Saturday was in some respects reminiscent of the way Lance Armstrong's U.S. Postal Service team would exhaust his rivals. But the way Sky wilted on Sunday definitely was not. Doped up on hormones, blood transfusions and other performance-enhancers, Armstrong's teammates rarely looked human like this. This Tour is the first since Armstrong was stripped last year of his seven titles for serial doping.

Seemingly drained by their monster efforts a day earlier, Froome's support riders quickly burned out. The day started badly for Sky when Peter Kennaugh crashed. He was treated for grazes and continued. It also ended less than ideally when Vasili Kiryienka rode in too slowly and missed the time cut, depriving Froome of his services for the Tour's last two weeks.

"It's quite nice to see that they're human," Froome said of his teammates. "I think it's quite understandable considering the amount of work they did."

For some rivals, Sky's difficulties on Sunday reinforced suspicions that the team isn't as strong as in 2012, when Bradley Wiggins and Froome finished one and two on the podium in Paris. Some riders were surprised that Sky wore itself out so quickly trying to control Stage 9.

"They are not unbeatable," said Jakob Fuglsang, the Dane who finished second behind stage winner Daniel Martin. "They blew themselves up one by one."

Martin's Garmin-Sharp team was particularly aggressive, with different riders distinguishing themselves with their goget racing at different parts of the 168.5kilometer (105-mile) slog from Saint-Girons to Bagneres-de-Bigorre.

"We were attacking without even thinking about it," said the Irish rider whose uncle, Stephen Roche, won the 1987 Tour. "When you look back, it's kind of crazy. But we wanted to really make the race exciting. We really enjoy racing our bikes."

For Froome, the day was far less enjoyable. Richie Porte, his lieutenant who rode furiously Saturday to come in second at the Ax 3 Domaines ski station behind Froome, got left behind by the pace on Sunday's second climb, to the Col de Mente.

That left Froome without help for the next 125 kilometers (77 miles) and three more climbs in temperatures once again into the 30s Celsius (above 90 Fahrenheit).

Looking around, Froome could see no friendly faces, just his main rivals ganging up on him and all with teammates to support them. Their eyes were hidden by their sunglasses, but their intentions were not.

Yet each of the four times Quintana spurted ahead on the final climb, through pines on a mountain-hugging road to the Hourquette d'Ancizan pass, Froome furiously whirred his pedals to stay with him. Two-time champion Alberto Contador and Alejandro Valverde, Spaniards who have both served doping bans, stayed with this battle but couldn't surge ahead of it themselves.

Froome said he went into that last climb "thinking 'OK, this is where

they are going to put me under pressure" but was expecting worse.

"They did go for me. I mean, Quintana-it's not easy to follow Quintana in the climbs. He's a light little Colombian who can fly uphill, so to cover his attacks definitely wasn't easy," he said. "But yeah, I was quite ready for more attacks, and I'm quite glad there weren't."

Contador said: "The only times he was really tested was by the attacks by Nairo Quintana, who only tried a little and didn't try it with much conviction. But I think this is good because he (Froome) had to respond and we hope we can take advantage of that later."

With Porte rolling in nearly 18 minutes behind the leaders. Valverde moved up to second overall. But his deficit to Froome remained unchanged: 1 minute, 25 seconds.

Bauke Mollema and Laurens Ten Dam, both from the Netherlands, are 1:44 and 1:50 behind Froome, respectively. Teammates Contador and Roman Kreuziger stayed 1:51 behind. Quintana is still 2:02 off the lead.

The next test for contenders for the overall title is Wednesday's time trial to Mont-Saint-Michel, a walled medieval masterpiece in Normandy given World Heritage status by UNESCO.

"Froome is very strong in the time trial," said Contador. "But we have to see how we all recover after the first nine days when he gave it his all."

## Corbin finally wins 10th, D-Backs sweep Rockies



PHOENIX (AP)— Patrick Corbin gave up three hits in eight

innings to finally get his 10th victory and the Arizona Diamondbacks beat Colorado 6-1 Sunday for their fifth straight win and a dominant three-game sweep of the Rockies.

Corbin (10-1) struck out 10 in his seventh attempt at win No. 10. The 23-year-old lefty, picked a day earlier as an All-Star, also hit an RBI double as the Diamondbacks outscored the Rockies 22-2 in the series.

The Rockies lost more than the game. Star outfielder Carlos Gonzalez left after swinging at a pitch in the ninth. Afterward, he said it was a sprain and nothing serious.

Starter Roy Oswalt (0-4) exited with what initially was called a strained left hamstring in the second. It could be worse than that, however, because he said he "heard something pop."

### Cubs 4, Pirates 3, 11 innings

In Chicago, pinch-hitter Dioner Navarro lifted a game-ending sacrifice fly in the 11th inning, sending the Chicago Cubs over Pittsburgh.

The Pirates tied it with two outs in the ninth on Starling Marte's solo homer. Pittsburgh has dropped three of four and fallen into a tie with St. Louis for the NL Central lead and the best record in the majors.

Anthony Rizzo and Alfonso Soriano singled in the Cubs' 11th. Pirates catcher Russell Martin threw the ball into center field while trying to pick off Rizzo, allowing both runners to advance.

Luis Valbuena was walked intentionally before Navarro's fly ball off Bryan Morris (4-3) gave the Cubs their seventh win in 11 games.

Matt Guerrier (3-4) pitched two scoreless innings.

#### Phillies 7, Braves 3

In Philadelphia, freshly chosen All-Star Domonic Brown homered, tripled and drove in two runs as the Philadelphia Phillies topped Atlanta.

Ben Revere hit a two-run triple for Philadelphia, which took two of three from the NL East leaders.

Chris Johnson homered and Brian McCann got three hits for Atlanta, which has lost 10 of its last 15 road games.

Winner Jonathan Pettibone (5-3) allowed one run on five hits in 5 1-3 innings. Kris Medlen (6-8) gave up a season-high six earned runs in 5 1-3 innings.

#### **Nationals 11, Padres 7**

In Washington, Ryan Zimmerman hit a grand slam, Bryce Harper added three hits and two stolen bases, and the Washington Nationals sent San Diego to its ninth straight loss.

Stephen Strasburg (5-6) allowed four runs over six innings. He matched his season-high with nine strikeouts as the Nationals won their fourth straight, the last three over San Diego.

Zimmerman's slam off Robbie Erlin (1-2) put Washington ahead 5-1 in the third inning. Two batters later, Anthony Rendon hit a two-run homer.

Rendon and Strasburg had RBI singles during the Nationals' four-

Washington is four games over .500 for the first time since April 12. San Diego lost the final nine on its 10-game road trip.



Arizona Diamondbacks starting pitcher Patrick Corbin throws in the first inning during a baseball game against the Colorado Rockies on Sunday, July 7, 2013, in Phoenix.

#### **Dodgers 4, Giants 1**

In San Francisco, A.J. Ellis hit a threerun double in the ninth inning, All-Star Clayton Kershaw made a third straight stellar start and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat slumping San Francisco.

Kershaw (8-5), a candidate to start the All-Star game for the National League, wasn't as sharp as he'd been in his previous two starts but still only allowed one run over eight innings. He helped the Dodgers move into second place in the West heading into a threegame series with division-leading Ari-

Kershaw also pitched out of a twoon, two-out jam in the eighth before Kenley Jansen worked the ninth for his ninth save.

Hanley Ramirez doubled and tripled to extend his career-high hitting streak to 18 games. Rookie Yasiel Puig added two hits, including a single that started the ninth off Sergio Romo (3-4).

The Giants have dropped 11 of 13.

#### Cardinals 3, Marlins 2

In St. Louis, Lance Lynn outpitched Marlins All-Star Jose Fernandez for his 11th win and Matt Holliday homered for the St. Louis Cardinals as they wrapped up a three-game sweep.

Lynn (11-3) worked seven strong innings and matched All-Star Adam Wainwright for the team lead in wins, bouncing back from losses in consecutive starts for the first time in his career. He struck out seven, fanning Giancarlo Stanton all three times.

Edward Mujica pitched for the fourth straight game and finished for his 23rd save in 24 chances, giving him a win and two saves in the series.

The 20-year-old Fernandez (5-5) worked six innings a day after getting the nod as the Marlins' lone All-Star and gave up three runs on four hits and a season-high four walks.

#### Mets 2, Brewers 1

In Milwaukee, Jeremy Hefner allowed one run on two hits over seven innings and the New York Mets turned two throwing errors by Milwaukee third baseman Juan Francisco into a pair of unearned runs.

Josh Satin had two doubles and a single for the Mets, scoring one run and driving in the other to extend his hitting streak to 11 games.

Hefner (4-6) matched his career-high with eight strikeouts and has a 1.64 ERA since June 4. Bobby Parnell came on with a runner on first and two outs in the eighth and finished for his 15th

Reliever Tom Gorzelanny (1-2), pressed into his second spot start of the season to give Willy Peralta a couple extra days to rest his ailing left hamstring, allowed two unearned runs in six innings and struck out eight.

#### Mariners 3, Reds 1

In Cincinnati, Joe Saunders pitched seven efficient innings and Nick Franklin and Justin Smoak each homered to lift the Seattle Mariners over Cincinnati.

Saunders (7-8) gave up six hits, walked none and struck out two while winning back-to-back starts for the first time this season.

Charlie Furbush pitched a 1-2-3 eighth and Tom Wilhelmsen was perfect in the ninth for his 18th save, helping the Mariners pick up their second win of the three-game series and improve to 10-2 against the Reds since interleague play began in 1997.

Bronson Arroyo (7-7) fell behind during a 32-pitch first inning.

#### Orioles 2, Yankees 1

In New York, Adam Jones hit a two-run homer off Mariano Rivera in the ninth inning and the Baltimore Orioles beat the Yankees, ending New York's longest winning streak of the season at six games.

A healthy Hiroki Kuroda pitched seven innings of three-hit ball for the Yankees, but they were unable to finish off a three-game sweep after Baltimore took all three games from them at Camden Yards last weekend.

David Robertson worked a 1-2-3 eighth and Rivera (1-2) entered looking to reach 30 saves for the 15th time, which would break a tie with Trevor

Hoffman for the major league record.

It was Rivera's second blown save in 31 chances this year. Baseball's career saves leader had converted 41 tries in a row at home since the start of the 2011 season.

Darren O'Day (5-0) got two outs and Jim Johnson, who blew a save in the series opener Friday, struck out two in a perfect ninth for his major leagueleading 30th save in 36 attempts.

#### Angels 3, Red Sox 0

In Anaheim, Calif., Jered Weaver combined with three relievers on a five-hitter and All-Star Mike Trout homered to the lead the Angels to their 10th win in 12 games.

Weaver (3-4) allowed five hits, struck out six and walked two in 6 2-3 innings. It was his first outing since becoming a father on Friday, when he named his first child Aden David Weaver in honor of his late teammate and friend Nick Adenhart.

Weaver beat former teammate John Lackey (6-6), whose three-game winning streak ended. Lackey struck out nine in seven innings and was charged with two runs and five hits.

Ernesto Frieri pitched the ninth to earn his 22nd save in 24 chances.

#### Rays 3, White Sox 1

In St. Petersburg, Fla., David Price went the distance to win his second straight start since returning from an injury, helping the Rays finish a three-game series sweep.

Price (3-4) worked around eight hits. The 2012 AL Cy Young Award winner spent 47 days on the disabled list with a strained left triceps, then came back and struck out 10 in seven shutout innings against Houston.

The Rays have won eight of nine to move a season-high nine games over .500.

Josh Phegley hit his first major league homer for Chicago, which has lost nine of 11. John Danks (2-6) allowed three runs and five hits over seven innings.

#### Athletics 10, Royals 4

In Kansas City, Mo., Josh Reddick homered and drove in four runs, and Jed

Lowrie and Eric Sogard also went deep for Oakland.

A.J. Griffin (7-6) rebounded from a miserable start against the Cubs to go five innings for the A's. The only damage he allowed came on solo homers by George Kottaras and Alex Gordon.

Jesse Chavez earned his first career save with four scoreless innings of relief.

Luis Mendoza (2-5) allowed five runs in the second inning for the Royals, and was yanked to a round of boos after retiring just four batters. It was the right-hander's shortest start in exactly five years—since an outing on July 7, 2008, when he was still with Texas.

#### Blue Jays 11, Twins 5

In Toronto, Todd Redmond pitched one-hit ball over five innings for his first major league win and Toronto beat Minnesota for the 10th time in the last 13 meetings.

Rajai Davis hit a three-run homer and Jose Reyes and Colby Rasmus also connected for the Blue Jays.

Redmond (1-1) allowed two runs, with three walks and four strikeouts. He was making his first start of the season for Toronto and just the second of his career. The right-hander was called up from Triple-A last week after the Blue Jays designated Chien-Ming Wang for assignment.

All three Toronto homers came off Scott Diamond (5-8), who lost for the fourth time in six starts.

The Blue Jays took two out of three and have not lost a series against Minnesota since May 2007.

#### **Indians 9, Tigers 6**

In Cleveland, Michael Brantley's two-run homer in the eighth inning off Al Alburquerque helped Cleveland snap a seven-game skid against Detroit.

Brantley hit a solo homer in the sixth and had a career-high five RBIs. He drove a 3-1 pitch from Alburquerque (1-2) over the wall in right as the Indians recovered after their bullpen blew a five-run lead.

Detroit had overpowered Cleveland in the first two games of the four-game series, and the Tigers rallied to tie it 6-all in the eighth on Torii Hunter's three-run homer.

Cody Allen (4-1) got one out in the eighth and Chris Perez gave up a single in the ninth before getting his ninth save.

#### Rangers 5, Astros 4

In Arlington, Texas, A.J. Pierzynski hit a three-run homer, Nelson Cruz had a tiebreaking single in the fifth inning to lift Texas.

Five Rangers relievers, including right-hander Joakim Soria in his first appearance in nearly two years, pitched a scoreless inning apiece after rookie starter Justin Grimm couldn't get an out in the fifth.

Cory Burns (1-0) got the win, and Joe Nathan pitched a perfect ninth for his 29th save in 30 chances a day after making his sixth All-Star team and second in two seasons with Texas.

Pierzynski gave the Rangers a 3-0 lead in the first inning with his 8th homer, a shot into the Texas bullpen in right field after consecutive walks to Elvis Andrus and Cruz by Erik Bedard (3-5).

## Mawati, Adobo ease past foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER



Mawati and Adobo notched easy wins in the opening of the 2013 DL Cor-

poration Invitational Basketball League last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

In the curtain raiser, Mawati thumped Sister Market, 88-74, while Adobo whipped Kalayaan, 83-55, in the second match.

A 30-11 scoring in the first period gave Mawati momenthe double-digit margin from thereon to open its bid in the new league with a bang. Five Mawati players scored twin digits to give their team the 14-point win.

Web Guntar led Mawati, firing 20 points and drilling the team's first two baskets, while Resty Corotan, Francis Serrano, and Julian Rena contributed at least two baskets apiece midway, and three more players also break into the scoreboard for the early 19-point advantage.

The lead ballooned to as

tum and it never relinquished much as 26 in the second canto, as Mawati continued to spread the wealth, while Sister Market got points consistently from only two players—White Capalad and Jerome Norita.

Other Sister Market players finally hit their marks in the second half, but Mawati had built enough lead and managed to answer almost every basket from the opposing team to keep the lead and the victory.

Jason Bahillo joined Guntar on the list of double figure scorer for Mawati, adding 15 points,

while Corotan, Rena, and Serrano chipped in 10 apiece. Capalad top-scored for Sister Market with his 22 markers.

In the second game, Shane Deleon Guerrero exploded for 28 points to help Adobo rout Kalayaan.

The Adobo swingman ended the first quarter with 4 straight points to lift his team to a 14-12 lead, which was stretched to 9 at the break, 31-22. Deleon Guerrero added 6 more markers in the second canto, while Mike Moran came off the bench and contributed 5.

After getting help from Moran, Deleon Guerrero then teamed up with Lester Vertudez in the third-quarter breakaway. Deleon Guerrero and Vertudez combined for 16 points in the third canto, which ended with Adobo now ahead by 20, 58-38.

Sonny Lerio tried to bring Kalayaan back into the game with his successive baskets in the fourth, but a one-man show could not get the job done. Lerio's string of points in the fourth was offset by Adobo's balance offense.

#### **First Game**

CNMI

Mawati 88 — Guntar 20, Ba-

hillo 15. Corotan 10. Rena 10. Serrano 10, Ibanez 9, Reyes 8, Buniag 2, Samson 2.

Sister Market 74 — Capalad 22, Bisana 17, Jugos 15, Tabora 11, Norita 11.

Scoring by quarters: 30-11, 57-33, 75-54, 88-74.

#### **Second Game**

Adobo 83 — Deleon Guerrero 28, Francisco 11, Moran 11, Vertudez 10, Palacios 4, Saturno 4, Dela Cruz 3, Tadifa 2, Yap 2, Mamaril 2.

Kalayaan 55 — Lerio 24, Apelo 16, R. Hernandez 6, J. Hernandez 4, Chan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-12, 31-22, 58-38, 83-55.

#### **MURRAY**

From Page 28

"That last game will be the toughest game I'll play in my career. Ever," said Murray, who was born in Dunblane, Scotland, and is the first British man to win the grass-court Grand Slam tournament since Fred Perry in 1936. "Winning Wimbledon—I still can't believe it. Can't get my head around that. I can't believe it."

For several seasons, Murray was the outsider looking in, while Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Djokovic collected 29 out of 30 Grand Slam titles. But now Murray has clearly and completely turned the Big 3 into a Big 4, having reached the finals at the last four major tournaments he entered (he withdrew from the French Open in May because of a bad back). And he's now a two-time Slam champion, having defeated Djokovic in five sets at the U.S. Open in September.

All this from a guy who lost his first four major finals, including against Federer at Wimbledon in 2012. After that defeat, Murray's voice cracked and tears rolled as he told the crowd, "I'm getting closer."

How prescient. Four weeks later, on the same court, he beat Federer for a gold medal at the London Olympics, a transformative victory if ever there was one. And 52 weeks later, on the same court, he beat Djokovic for the Wimbledon championship.

"You need that self-belief in the important moments," observed Djokovic, a six-time major champion, "and he's got it now."

Murray's mother, Judy, who is Britain's Fed Cup captain, agreed that the setback 12 months ago "was a turning point in some ways."

"Every time you have a really tough loss, a loss that really hurts you," she said, "I think you learn a lot about how to handle the occasions better going forward."

Murray trailed 4-1 in the second set Sunday, and 4-2 in the third, before wiggling his way back in front each time.

He won the last four games, breaking for a 5-4 lead when Djokovic flubbed a forehand, setting off a standing ovation and applause that lasted more than a full minute. When he got out of his changeover chair, preparing to serve for the title, an earsplitting roar accompanied his trek to the baseline.

Djokovic missed a backhand, Murray smacked a backhand winner and added a 131 mph (211 kph) service winner, and suddenly one point was all that remained between him and history. That's where things got a tad complicated.

On match point No. 1, Djokovic capped a 12-stroke exchange with a forehand volley winner. On No. 2, Djokovic hit a backhand return winner off an 84 mph (135 kph) second serve. On No. 3, Murray sailed a backhand long on the ninth shot.

Now it was deuce.

"I started to feel nervous and started thinking about what just happened," Murray said. "There's a lot of things you're thinking of at that moment."

The match continued for eight additional points.

Seemed to take an eternity.

"Just how that last game went, my head was kind of everywhere. I mean, some of the shots he came up with were unbelievable," Murray said. "At the end of the match, I didn't quite know what was going on. Just a lot of different emotions."

Any of Djokovic's break points in that game would have made it 5-all, and who knows what toll that would have taken on Murray's mind? But Murray erased the first two chances with a 116 mph service winner, then a forehand winner on the 21st stroke.

At deuce for a third time, Diokovic conjured up a forehand passing winner to get his third break point. Murray dropped his head and placed his hands on his knees. The crowd clapped rhythmically and shouted, "Andy! Andy!" They couldn't know it, but their man wouldn't lose another point.

On a 16-shot exchange, Djokovic delivered an overhead that was retrieved, then tried a drop shot that Murray got back. Djokovic put the ball in the net, and Murray was at match point No. 4. When that one went Murray's way, the ball on Djokovic's side of the court, Murray dropped his neon-red racket, yanked his white hat off and pumped both fists overhead, screaming, "Yes! Yes!" He was looking directly at the corner of the stadium with benches for members of the press, a group that he used to worry helped fuel the intense pressure and only-one-way-tosatisfy-them expectations on Murray's shoulders.

"It's hard. It's really hard. You know, for the last four or five years, it's been very, very tough, very stressful," Murray said. "It's just kind of everywhere you go. It's so hard to avoid everything because of how big this event is, but also because of the history and no Brit having won."

When a Brit did win, 15,000 or so spectators around the arena rose and yelled right back at him, some waving Union Jacks or blue-and-white Scottish flags. Soon, Murray was climbing into the guest box for hugs with his girlfriend, his mother and his coach, Ivan Lendl, who won eight major titles as a player but never fared better than the runner-up at Wimbledon.

"I didn't always feel it was going to happen," said Murray, who fumbled with his gold trophy after the ceremony, dropping the lid. "It's incredibly difficult to win these events. I don't think that's that well-understood sometimes. It takes so much hard work, mental toughness, to win these sort of tournaments."

At the end, across the grounds, thousands responded with cheers while watching on a giant videoboard at the picnic lawn known as Murray Mount. And, surely, millions more following along on TV across Britain stood up from their sofas. British Prime Minister David Cameron was in the Royal Box, a sign of the day's significance, and Buckingham Palace confirmed that Queen Elizabeth II sent Murray a private message afterward.

"The end of the match, that was incredibly loud, very noisy," Murray said. "It does make a difference. It really helps when the crowd's like that, the atmosphere is like that. Especially in a match as tough as that one, where it's extremely hot, brutal, long rallies, tough games—they help you get through it."

Said Djokovic, who famously ate blades of grass after winning Wimbledon in 2011: "The atmosphere was incredible for him. For me, not so much. But that's what I expected."

The fans were active participants throughout, lamenting "ahttp://www" when Murray missed a serve; cheering rowdily when he hit one of his 36 winners, five more than Djokovic; shushing in unison when someone called out in premature agony or delight while a point was in progress.

That was understandable. Points rarely are over when they appear to be if Murray and Djokovic are involved. The elastic Djokovic's sliding carries him to so many shots, while Murray is more of a powerful scrambler. It took a half-hour to get through the opening five games, in part because 10 of 32 points lasted at least 10 strokes apiece. And this all happened with the temperature above 80 degrees (27 Celsius), with only the occasional puff of cloud interrupting the blue sky.

Born a week apart in May 1987, Murray and Djokovic have known each other since they were 11, and they grasp the ins and outs of each other's games so well.

"You've got to fight so hard to get past Novak, because he's such an incredible competitor, an amazing athlete, and it's never over 'til it's over," Judy Murray said.

This was their 19th meeting on tour (Djokovic leads 11-8), and their fourth in a Grand Slam final, including three in the past year. Both are fantastic returners, and Murray broke seven times Sunday, once more than Djokovic lost his serve in the preceding six matches combined.

In the late going, Djokovic was taking some shortcuts, repeatedly trying drop shots or rushing to the net to shorten points, but neither strategy tended to work.

"He was getting some incredible shots on the stretch and running down the drop shots," Djokovic said. "He was all over the court."

Admittedly feeling the effects of his five-setter Friday against Juan Martin del Potroat 4 hours, 43 minutes, it's the longest semifinal in Wimbledon history—Djokovic was far more erratic than Murray, with particular problems on the backhand side. Djokovic wound up with 40 unforced errors, nearly double Murray's 21.

"I wasn't patient enough," Djokovic said.

Ah, patience. The British needed plenty when it comes to their precious, prestigious tennis tournament.

Thanks to Murray, the wait is

From Page 28 from all over the world," Quinn

"The Athletes Village has a full state-of-the-art fitness center so we put Clay and John back into their workout routine. The temperatures have been hot, in the mid-90s. It's a dry heat and while it doesn't have the same draining effect that the humidity of the CNMI has, the dryness can make breathing hard," added Quinn, who devised a few drills to overcome this breathing problem.

Quinn also said they enjoyed the food as much as the Games' accommodation, as organizers offer variety. Athletes and delegates can choose from Asian, vegetarian, local, and European style of food and there are also salad bar, pizza, and pasta.

Nearly 12,000 athletes and officials are participating in

the 27th Summer Universiade, which opened last Saturday with around 45,000 packing the Kazan Arena Stadium.

"It was amazing. It featured the parade of athletes representing more than 160 countries. There were music and dance, acrobatics, and fireworks The president of Russia, Vladimir Putin, spoke and officially opened the Games. Special message of good luck from space came from three Russian cosmonauts aboard the International Space Station," Quinn said.

"Overall Clay and John have been enjoying their experience here, while staying focused on their goals of playing their best and representing the CNMI. They know they have an uphill battle against taller, more experienced teams, but they also know they have put in the time and hardwork and now they have a chance to show their stuff," the coach added.

#### AXE

From Page 28

til Errol Peredo made a layup at the 2:12 mark of that canto.

With Mobil held to a basket, AXE Proa raced to a 17-2 lead and coach Rufino Aguon had the luxury of fielding his second stringers midway in the first period. The second unit composed of CNMI Junior National players Jack Aranda, Jimmy Tudela, Bryl Alegre, Ichitaro Faisao, and Erick Dela Rosa then gave AXE Proa quality minutes, as they stretched the lead to 20 at the end of that canto, 30-10. Aranda finished with 7 points in the first period.

Aguon used the same combination in the next three quarters and Mobil, which had only six players, simply could not keep up with AXE Proa's rotation and fell behind by as much as 34 points in the second period.

The starters were back for Proa in the second canto with Keoni Chariton and Gino Libuw making 5 early points apiece to keep the big lead. The rest of AXE Proa's points were evenly distributed, while Mobil leaned heavily on Pelisamen and Jun Estolas. With this contrasting offensive ploy, AXE Proa went up by 30 at the break, 59-29.

It was the second unit's turn to kick off the second half and Aranda and Alegre made the most out of it as former dropped two triples and latter scored 6 off short jumpers to help AXE Proa keep the double-digit advantage, 74-53, entering the final canto.

AXE Proa's lead returned to more than 20 points and it would have easily passed the century mark if it decided not to slow down in the last three minutes of the fourth canto. With AXE Proa letting its guard down, Mobil managed to cut the deficit to a decent number, but still fell to a 1-1 slate, while the former took the early lead in the nine-team field with its 2-0 record.

Chariton paced Proa with his 14 points, while Aranda added 13, and Dan Barcinas and Quincy Johnson chipped in 12 and 11, respectively. Five other AXE Proa players scored at least 6 points apiece. Pelisamen led Proa with his 31 markers.

Meanwhile, action in the Emon Lodge caging resumes tonight with Armatech (1-0) taking on KFC/Taco Bell (1-0) in the first game at 6:30pm and San Roque (0-1) meeting Pacific Islands Club (0-1) in the second match at 8pm.

AXE Pro 99 — Chariton 14, Aranda 13, Barcinas 12, Johnson 11, Libuw 9, Lizama 8, Alegre 8. Villacrusis 7, Faisao 6, Tudela 4, Dela Rosa 3, Babauta 2.

Mobil 83 — Pelsamen 31, Estolas 21, Peredo 12, Babauta 12, Camacho 2.

Scoring by quarters: 30-10, 59-29, 74-53, 99-83.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2013 27

# 2013 IT&E Mixed Doubles and Singles Badminton Tournament Winners

#### **CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS**



Winners pose with their trophies and medals during the awards ceremony for the 2013 IT&E Mixed Doubles and Singles Badminton Tournament last month at the TSL Sports Complex.



Men's singles B champion Jordan Pangilinan is flanked by runners-up, Ezekiel Macario, and Chris Hilario.



The Top 3 finishers in the mixed doubles B pose for a photo.



The Top 3 finishers in the mixed doubles A show their medals and prizes.



Tournament director Macoi Aguda, left, poses with the Top 3 finishers n the mixed doubles C.



Women's singles B champion Janelle Pangilinan, center, poses with, from left, tournament director Macoi Aguda, third placer Loida Ito, runner-up Toshiko Obata, and tournament committee member Chris Hilario.



Almond Edralin, center, is joined by runners-up Panapa Peteru, second right, and Kevin Park, second left, during the awards ceremony.



Men's singles A champion Andreau Galvez, center, poses with third placer Jexler Caranto, second left, and fourth placer Jeff Riman, second right.



Blixt wins rain-delayed Greenbrier Classic by 2

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**28** TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE



more point, one solitary point, to win Wimble

don—a title he yearned to earn for himself, of

course, and also for his country.

Andy Murray of Britain poses with the trophy after defeating Novak D

ovic of Serbia during the Men's singles final match at the All England Law Tennis Championships in Wimbledon, London, Sunday, July 7, 2013.

Britain had endured 77 years since one of its own claimed the men's trophy at the revered tournament

referred to simply as The Championships, and now here was Murray, on the brink of triumph after 3 hours of grueling tennis against top-seeded Novak Djokovic under a vibrant sun at Centre Court.

Up 40-love, Murray failed to convert his first match point. And his second. And then, yes, his third, too. On and on the contest, and accompanying tension, stretched, Murray unable to close it, Djokovic unwilling to yield, the minutes certainly feeling like hours to those playing and those watching. Along came three break points for Djokovic, all erased. Finally, on Murray's fourth chance to end it, Djokovic dumped a backhand into the net.

The final was over. The wait was over.

A year after coming oh-so-close by losing in the title match at the All England Club, the No. 2-ranked Murray beat No. 1 Djokovic of Serbia 6-4, 7-5, 6-4 Sunday to become Wimbledon's champion in a test of will and skill between a pair of men with mirror-image defensive styles that created lengthy points brimming with superb shots.

See MURRAY on Page 26

## CNMI debuts vs Czech Republic

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER



The CNMI's Clay McCullough-Stearns and John KAZAN Nekaifes begin their campaign in the beach volleyball competition of the 27th Sum-

mer Universiade today when they face the Czech Republic.

According to the information provided by Janet Mc-Cullough and Tony Stearns to Saipan Tribune, the CNMI-Czech Republic is set for 9am in Kazan, Russia (3pm Saipan time) at the Kazanka Beach Volleyball Centre in Kazanka River Embankment. The CNMI and Czech Republic are in Pool D of the 32-team field, joining Oman and Austria. McCullough-Stearns and Nekaifes also play Oman today at 3pm before closing the pool play tomorrow with their 10am match against Austria. The Top 3 teams in each pool will advance to the doubleelimination tournament, while the last finisher will play in the consolation draw.

There are eight pools in the men's beach volleyball compe-



JANET MCCULLOUGH

Saipan Tril

CNMI flag bearer Clay McCullough-Stearns and John Nekaifes join the parade of athletes during the opening ceremony of the 27th Summer Universiade last Saturday at the Kazan Arena Stadium in Kazan, Russia.

tition and groupings were determined last Sunday via draw and seeding. Russia, being the host country, got the No. 1 seeding, while Poland, Russia (No. 2 team), and the Czech Republic earned the three other seeding based on the results of the previous University Games.

Before the start draw, the CNMI spikers, who are seeded No. 29, managed to play New Zealand in a scrimmage last

"Team Marianas was the first team to hit the courts. We wanted to get the layout of the land and adjust to the searing heat. On the third day other teams started showing up. They are tall, experienced, and are good. We played a couple of scrimmage games against New Zealand and held our own. It was a confidence boost for the boys as they improved against stiff competition. New Zealand had just beaten their neighbor Australia before playing the CNMI. It showed us that we could play against these teams," coach Russ Quinn was quoted as saying in the email sent to Saipan *Tribune* yesterday.

Quinn, McCullough-Stearns, and Nekaifes, arrived in Kazan last Wednesday with CNMI delegation head and NMASA president Michael White and were billeted at the Athletes Village.

"The CNMI is grouped with Team USA and Team American Samoa. There are free bikes for athletes to ride, they just grab a bike, ride it, and leave it when they are done. Many people are very interested in knowing where the NMI is and more about it. It has been a great opportunity to meet other athletes

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AXE Proa's Jimmy Tudela is double teamed by Mobil's Zack Baleft, and Jorge De Guzman during the for game in the Emon Lodge caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada

#### AXE Proa crushes Mobil

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER



AXE Proa missed the century mark, but still pounded defending cham-

pion Mobil, 99-83, in the second game in the Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood Basketball League 2013/Docomo Pacific Cup last Saturday night at at he Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

What was expected as a neck-and-neck game turned into a one-sided one, as AXE Proa got off to a jackrabbit start, while Mobil showed up with a depleted roster and was held to one field goal in almost the first eight minutes of play. Freddie Pelisamen put Mobil in the board in the opening minutes of the first period and his team went on a slump un-

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